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DUCK AVENGER
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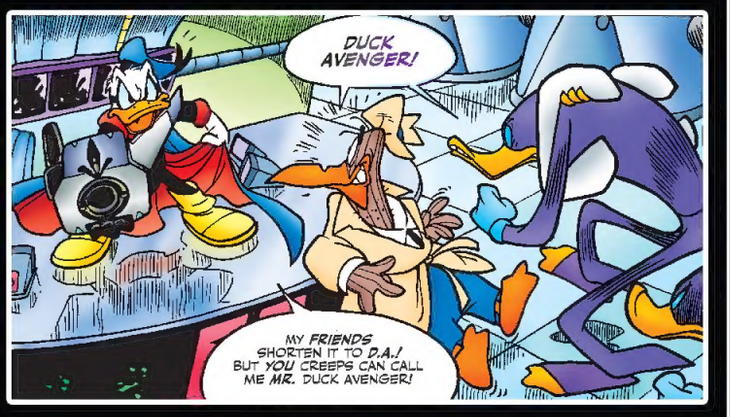
COMICS

Disney

DUCK AVENGER



Story 1: *Shadows on Venus*
from Italian *Paperinik New Adventures* 01, 1996
(First USA Publication)

WRITER Francesco Artibani and Simone Stenti
ARTIST Claudio Sciarrone
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LETTERER Nicole and Travis Seitler
TRANSLATION AND DIALOGUE Jonathan H. Gray

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WRITER, ARTIST AND COLORIST Marco Bolla
LETTERER Nicole and Travis Seitler
TRANSLATION AND DIALOGUE Jonathan H. Gray

Story 3: *The World of Duck Avenger*
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WRITER Simone Stenti
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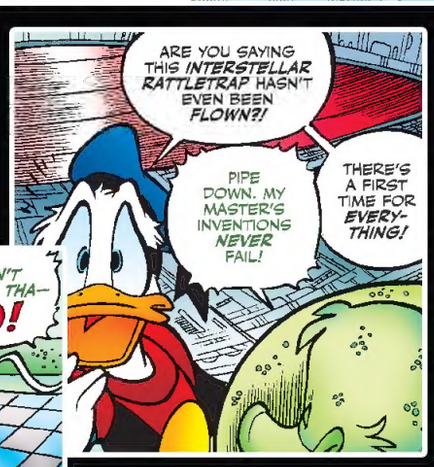
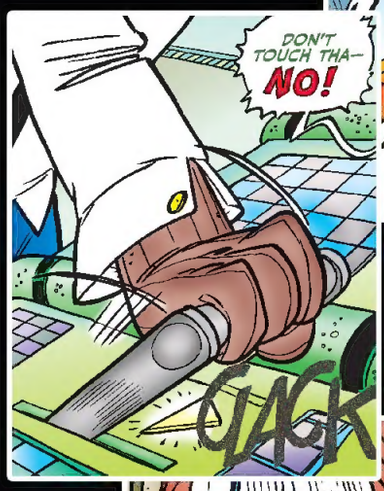
COLORIST Disney Italia and Digikore Studios
LETTERER Nicole and Travis Seitler
TRANSLATION AND DIALOGUE Jonathan H. Gray


ARE YOU SAYING THIS INTERSTELLAR RATTLETRAP HASN'T EVEN BEEN FLOWN?!
PIPE DOWN. MY MASTER'S INVENTIONS NEVER FAIL!
THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERY-THING!



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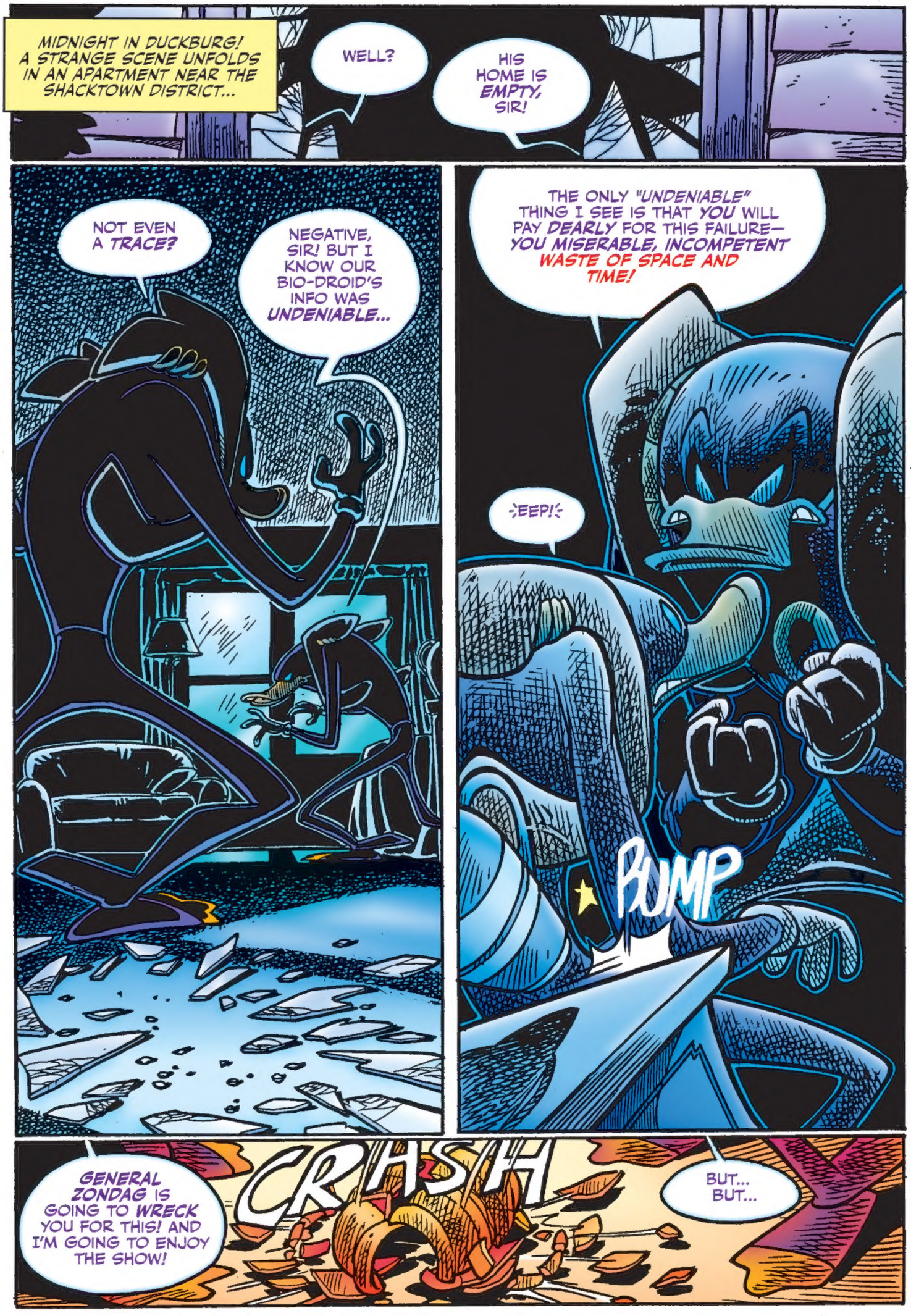
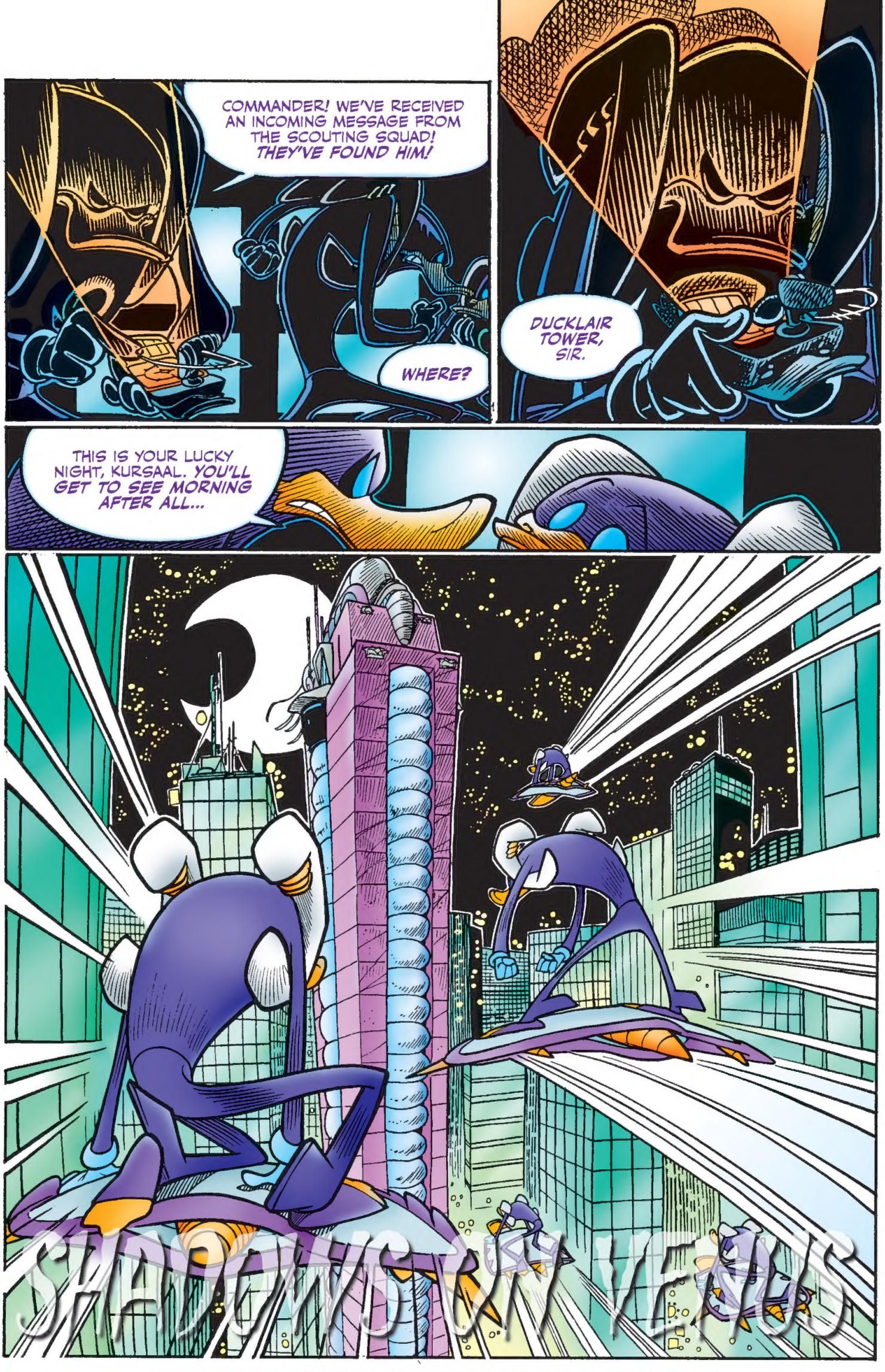
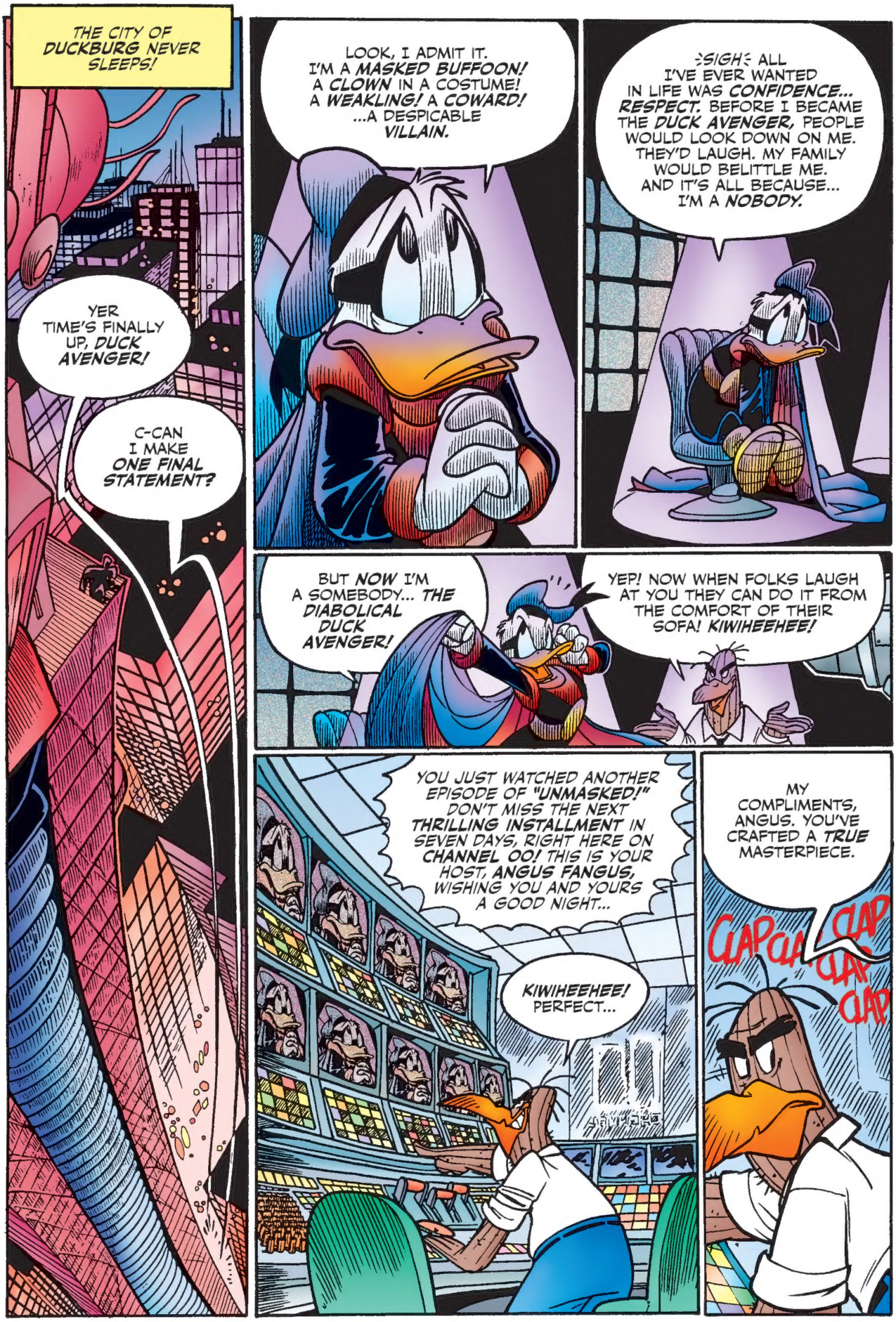
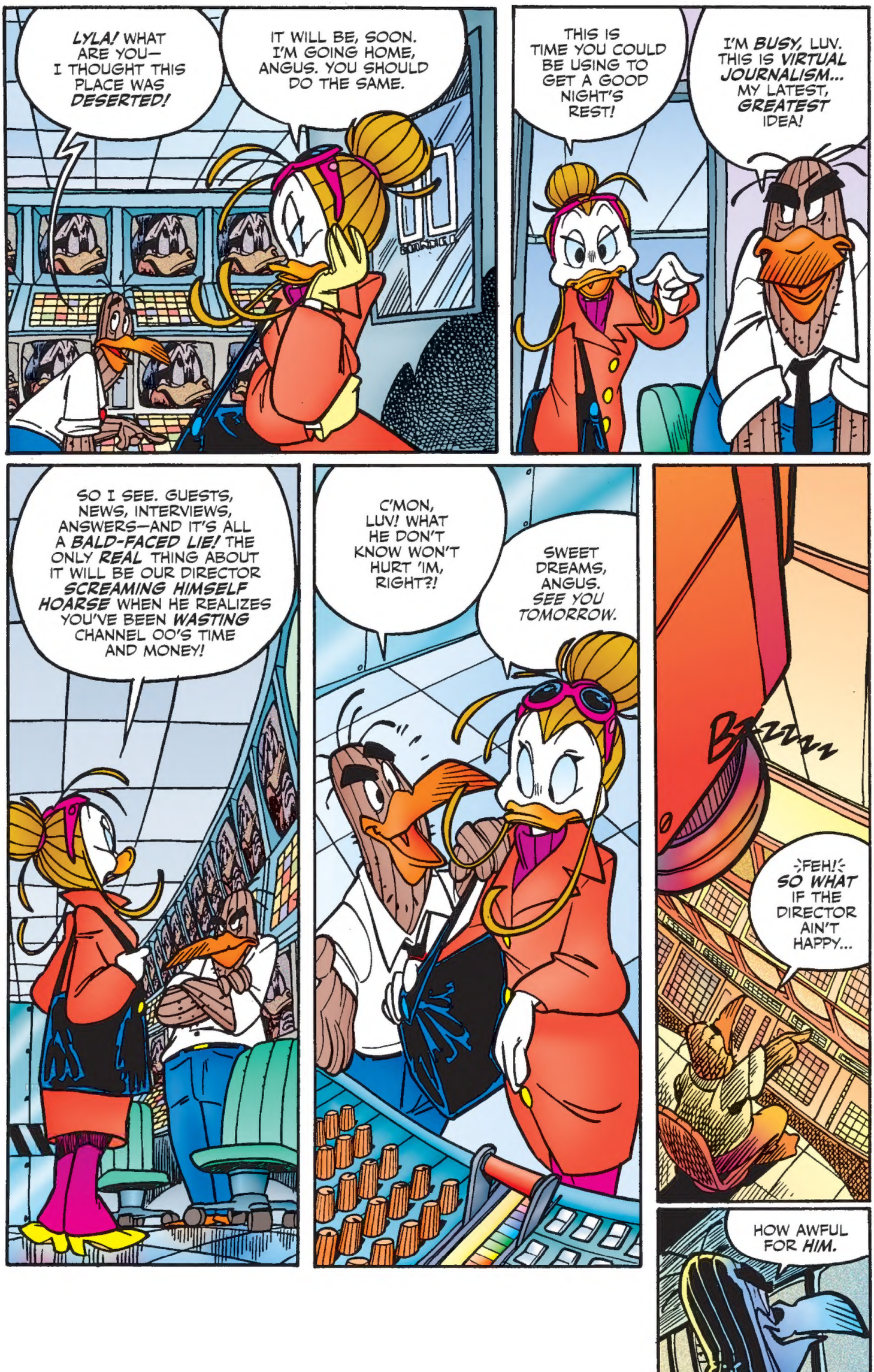

MIDNIGHT IN DUCKBURG! A STRANGE SCENE UNFOLDS IN AN APARTMENT NEAR THE SHACKTOWN DISTRICT...
WELL?
HIS HOME IS EMPTY, SIR!
NOT EVEN A TRACE?
NEGATIVE, SIR! BUT I KNOW OUR BIO-DROID'S INFO WAS UNDENIABLE...
THE ONLY "UNDENIABLE" THING I SEE IS THAT YOU WILL PAY DEARLY FOR THIS FAILURE— YOU MISERABLE, INCOMPETENT WASTE OF SPACE AND TIME!
:EEP!:
BUMP
GENERAL ZONDAG IS GOING TO WRECK YOU FOR THIS! AND I'M GOING TO ENJOY THE SHOW!
CRASH
BUT... BUT...

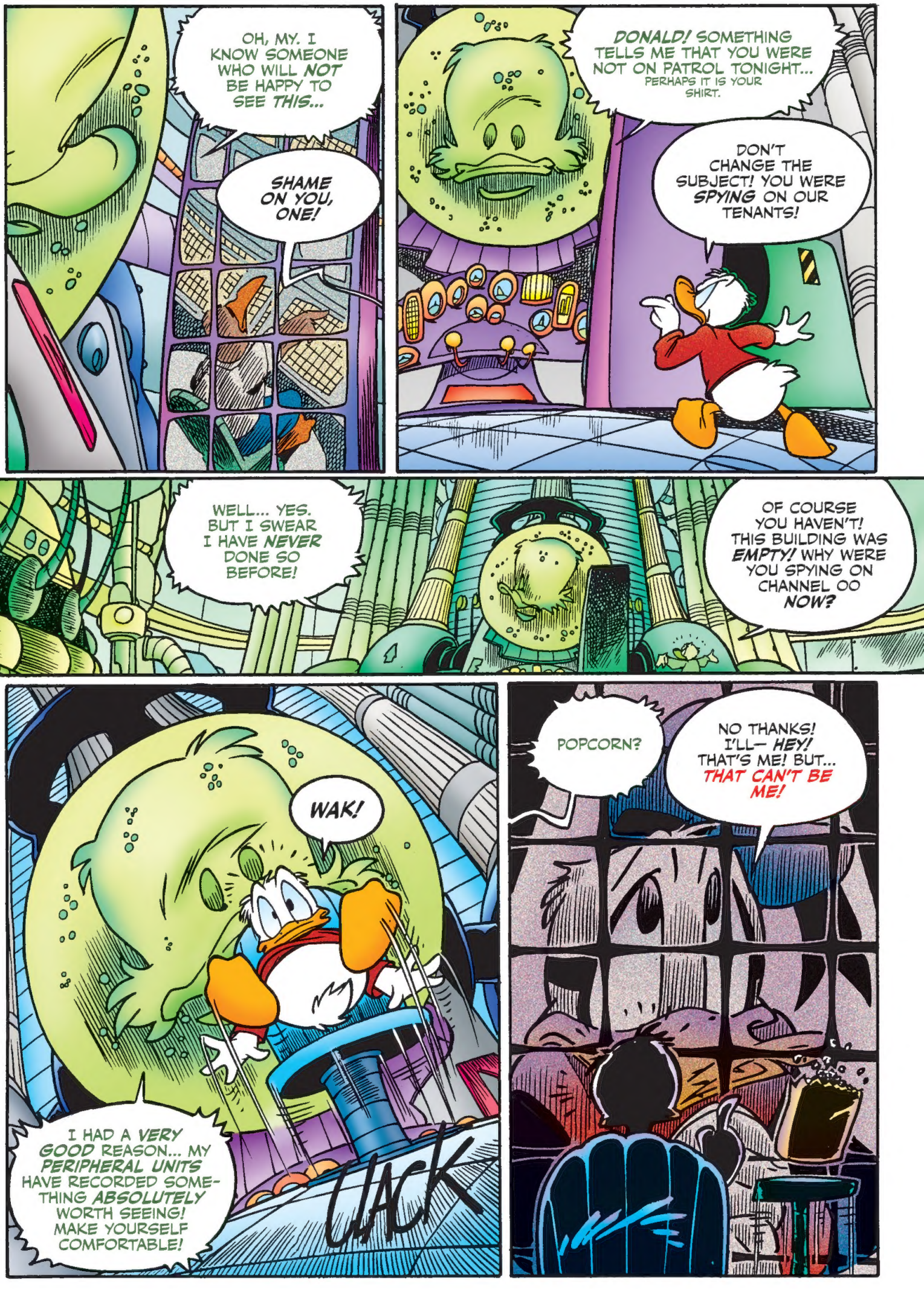

COMMANDER! WE'VE RECEIVED AN INCOMING MESSAGE FROM THE SCOUTING SQUAD! THEY'VE FOUND HIM!
WHERE?
DUCKLAIR TOWER, SIR.
THIS IS YOUR LUCKY NIGHT, KURSAAL. YOU'LL GET TO SEE MORNING AFTER ALL...

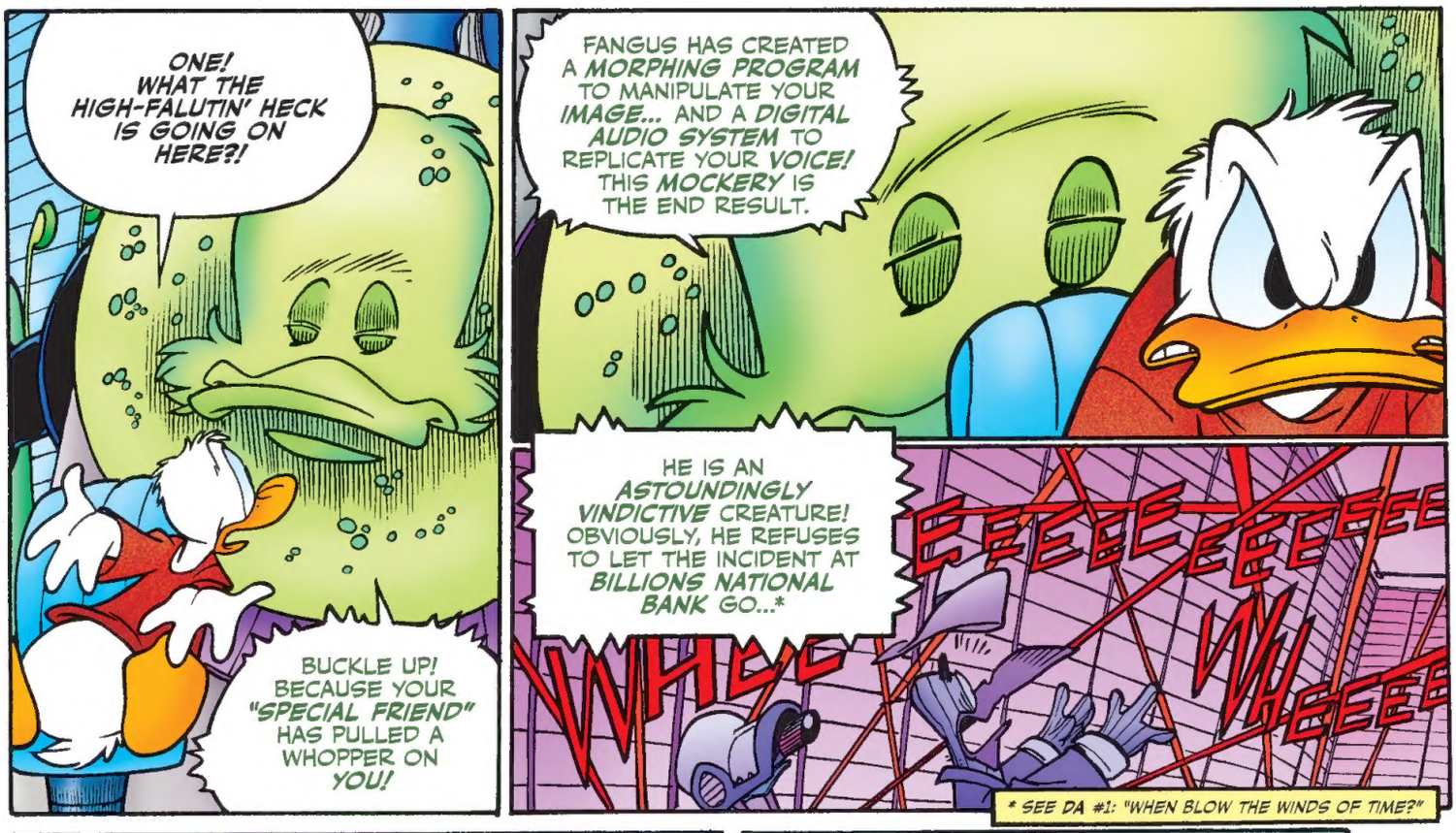
SHADOWDRIVE

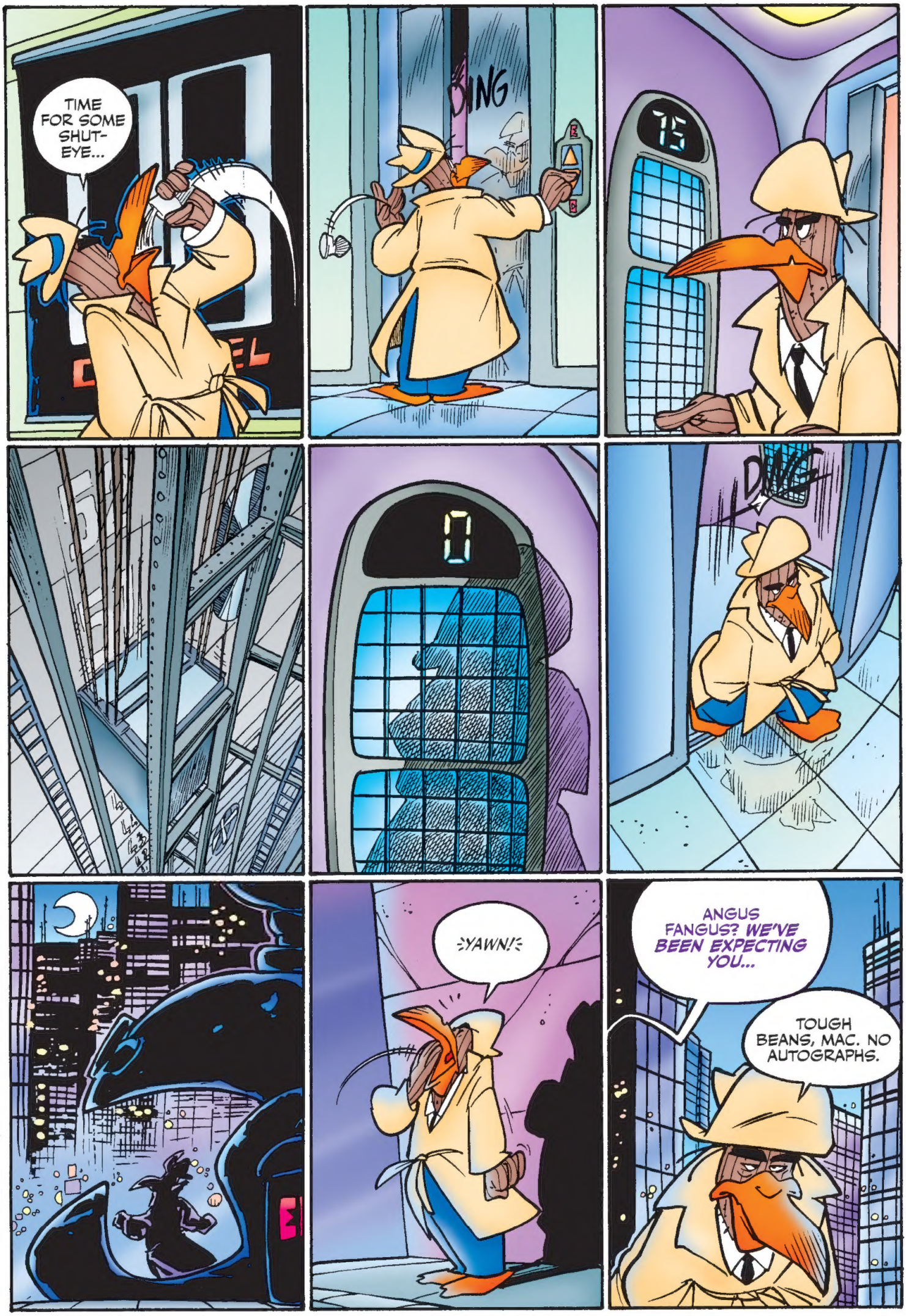
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN PAPERINIK NEW ADVENTURES #1 (ITALY, 1996) • FIRST USA PUBLICATION

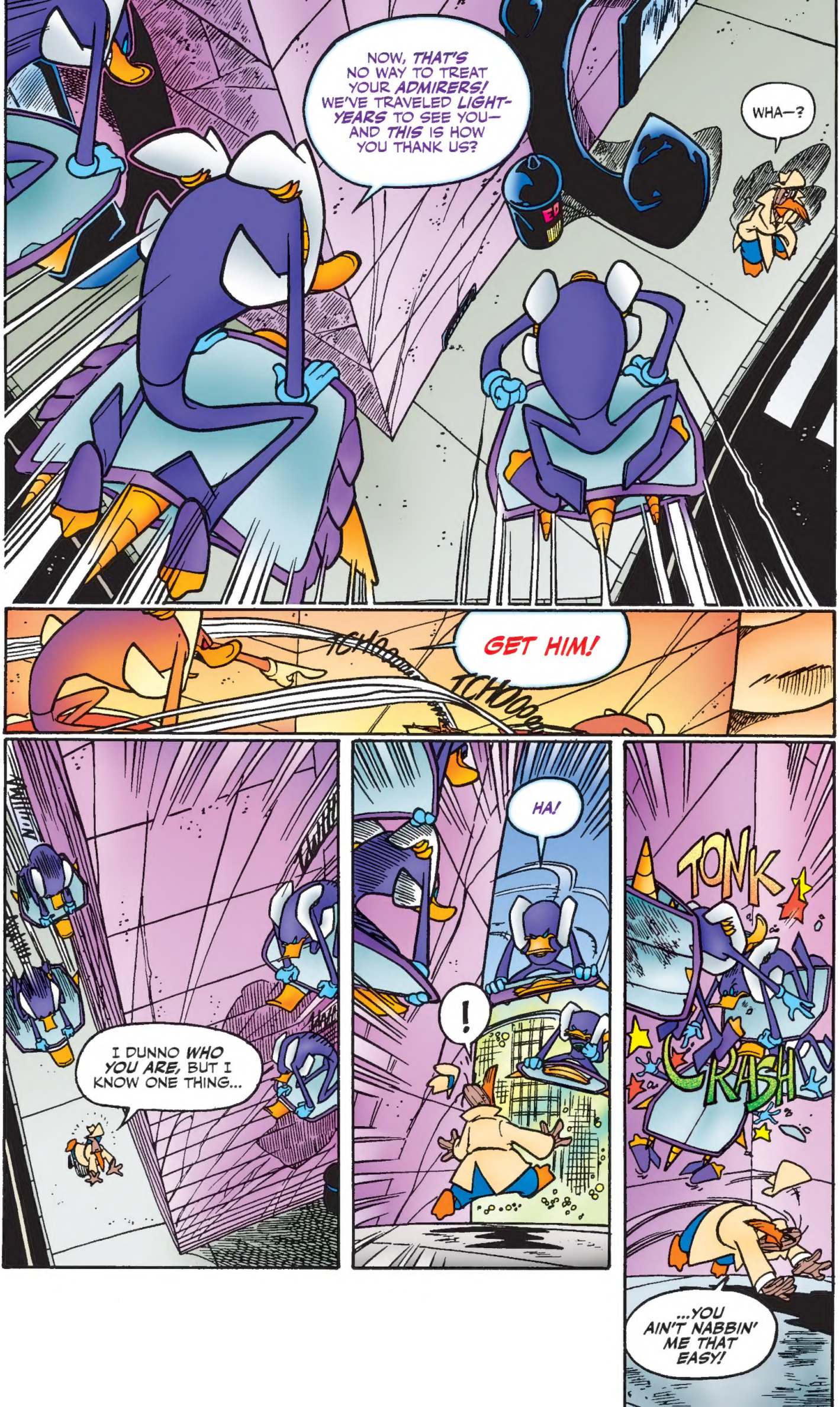

THE CITY OF DUCKBURG NEVER SLEEPS!
YER TIME'S FINALLY UP, DUCK AVENGER!
C-CAN I MAKE ONE FINAL STATEMENT?
LOOK, I ADMIT IT. I'M A MASKED BUFFOON! A CLOWN IN A COSTUME! A WEAKLING! A COWARD! ...A DESPICABLE VILLAIN.
:SIGH: ALL I'VE EVER WANTED IN LIFE WAS CONFIDENCE... RESPECT. BEFORE I BECAME THE DUCK AVENGER, PEOPLE WOULD LOOK DOWN ON ME. THEY'D LAUGH. MY FAMILY WOULD BELITTLE ME. AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE... I'M A NOBODY.
BUT NOW I'M A SOMEBODY... THE DIABOLICAL DUCK AVENGER!
YEP! NOW WHEN FOLKS LAUGH AT YOU THEY CAN DO IT FROM THE COMFORT OF THEIR SOFA! KIWIHEEHEE!
YOU JUST WATCHED ANOTHER EPISODE OF "UNMASKED!" DON'T MISS THE NEXT THRILLING INSTALLMENT IN SEVEN DAYS, RIGHT HERE ON CHANNEL OO! THIS IS YOUR HOST, ANGUS FANGUS, WISHING YOU AND YOURS A GOOD NIGHT...
KIWIHEEHEE! PERFECT...
MY COMPLIMENTS, ANGUS. YOU'VE CRAFTED A TRUE MASTERPIECE.
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

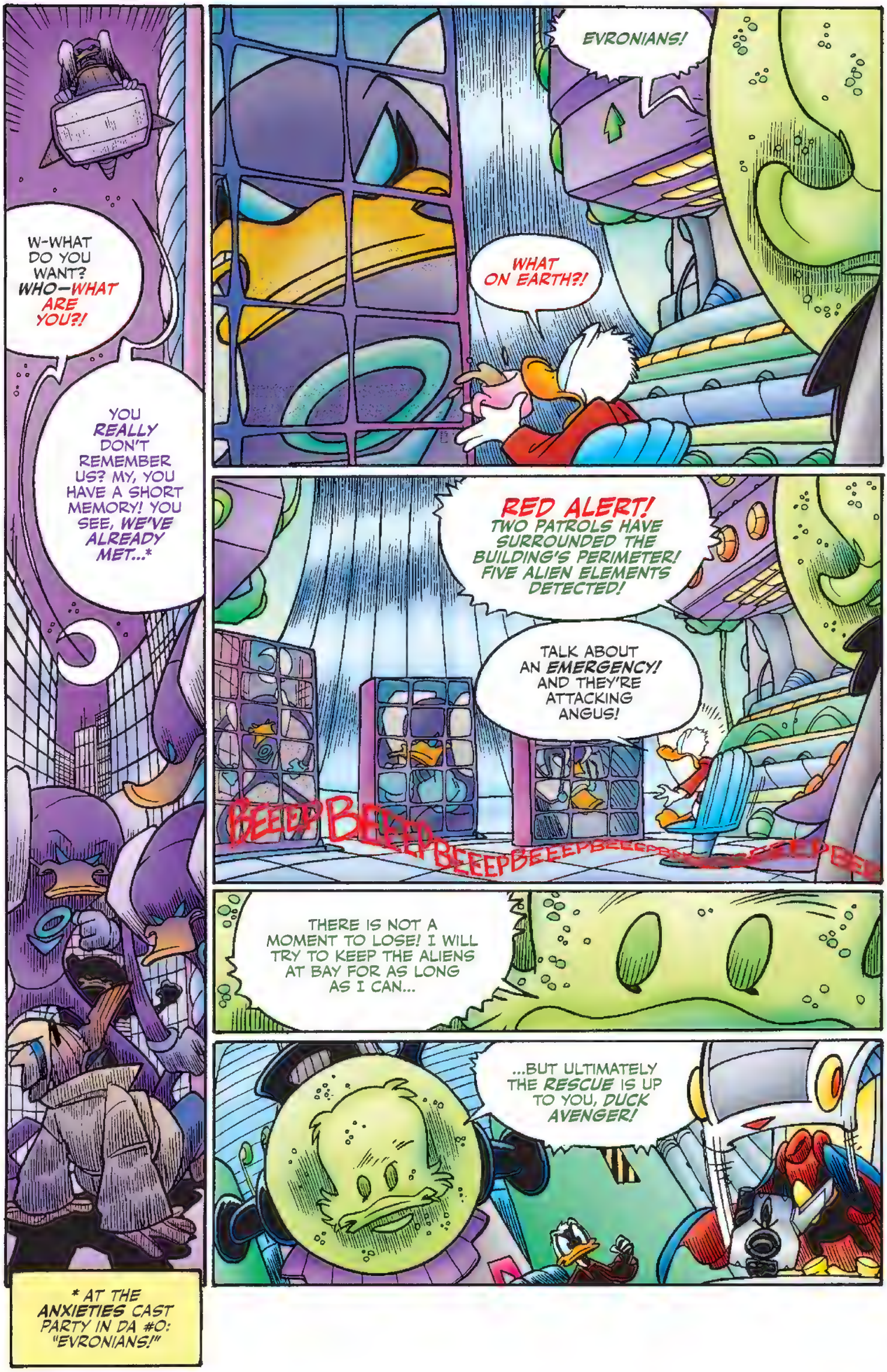

LYLA! WHAT ARE YOU— I THOUGHT THIS PLACE WAS DESERTED!
IT WILL BE, SOON. I'M GOING HOME, ANGUS. YOU SHOULD DO THE SAME.
THIS IS TIME YOU COULD BE USING TO GET A GOOD NIGHT'S REST!
I'M BUSY, LUV. THIS IS VIRTUAL JOURNALISM... MY LATEST, GREATEST IDEA!
SO I SEE. GUESTS, NEWS, INTERVIEWS, ANSWERS—AND IT'S ALL A BALD-FACED LIE! THE ONLY REAL THING ABOUT IT WILL BE OUR DIRECTOR SCREAMING HIMSELF HOARSE WHEN HE REALIZES YOU'VE BEEN WASTING CHANNEL 00'S TIME AND MONEY!
C'MON, LUV! WHAT HE DON'T KNOW WON'T HURT 'IM, RIGHT?!
SWEET DREAMS, ANGUS. SEE YOU TOMORROW.
BZZZZZ
FEH! SO WHAT IF THE DIRECTOR AIN'T HAPPY...
HOW AWFUL FOR HIM.

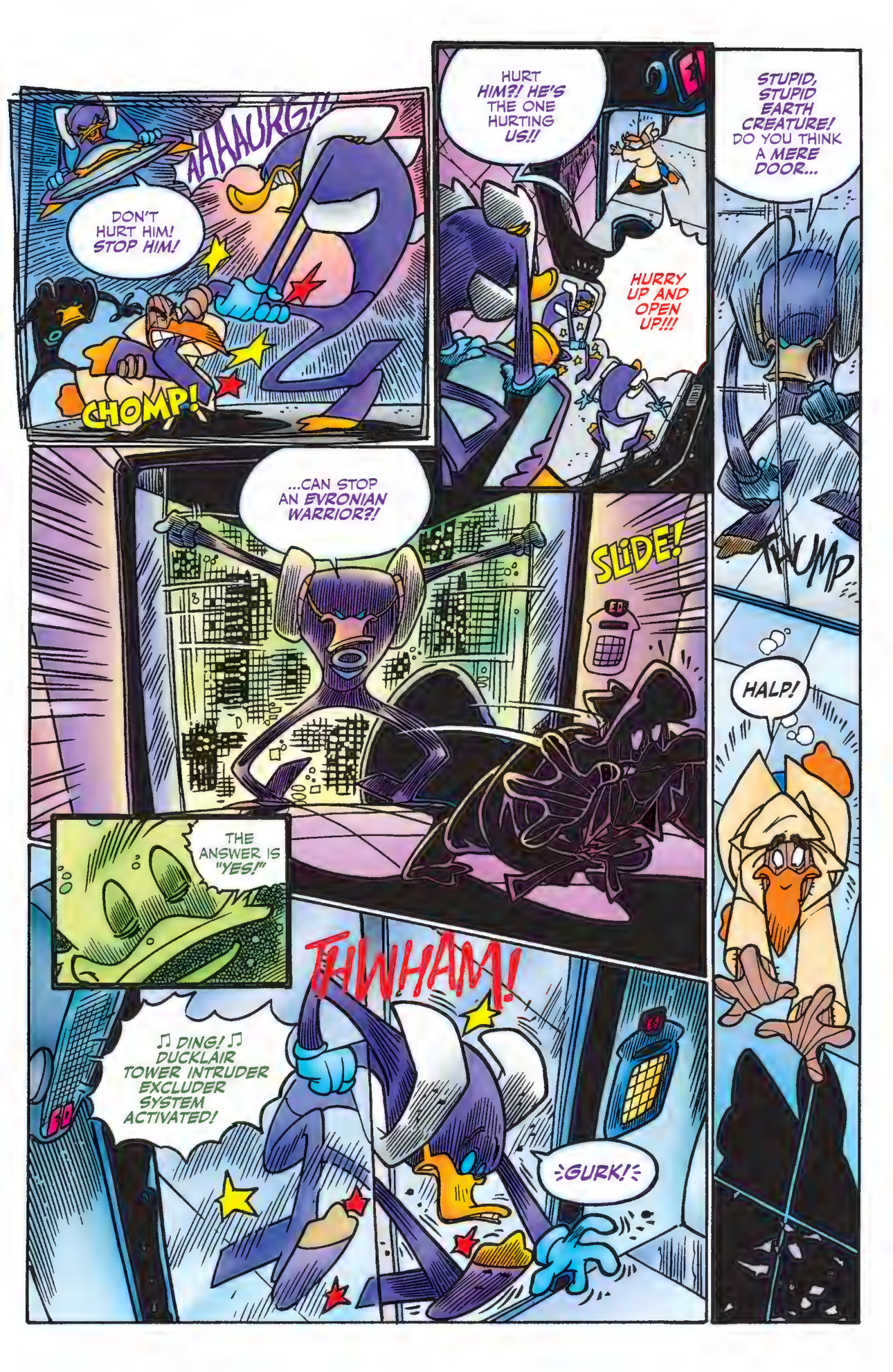

OH, MY. I KNOW SOMEONE WHO WILL *NOT* BE HAPPY TO SEE *THIS*...
SHAME ON YOU, ONE!
DONALD! SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT YOU WERE NOT ON PATROL TONIGHT... PERHAPS IT IS YOUR SHIRT.
DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT! YOU WERE *SPYING* ON OUR TENANTS!
WELL... YES. BUT I SWEAR I HAVE *NEVER* DONE SO BEFORE!
OF COURSE YOU HAVEN'T! THIS BUILDING WAS *EMPTY!* WHY WERE YOU SPYING ON CHANNEL 00 *NOW?*
WAK!
I HAD A *VERY GOOD* REASON... MY *PERIPHERAL UNITS* HAVE RECORDED SOMETHING *ABSOLUTELY* WORTH SEEING! MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE!
POPCORN?
NO THANKS! I'LL— *HEY!* THAT'S ME! BUT... *THAT CAN'T BE ME!*


ONE! WHAT THE HIGH-FALUTIN' HECK IS GOING ON HERE?!
BUCKLE UP! BECAUSE YOUR "SPECIAL FRIEND" HAS PULLED A WHOPPER ON YOU!
FANGUS HAS CREATED A MORPHING PROGRAM TO MANIPULATE YOUR IMAGE... AND A DIGITAL AUDIO SYSTEM TO REPLICATE YOUR VOICE! THIS MOCKERY IS THE END RESULT.
HE IS AN ASTOUNDINGLY VINDICTIVE CREATURE! OBVIOUSLY, HE REFUSES TO LET THE INCIDENT AT BILLIONS NATIONAL BANK GO...*
WHEEE

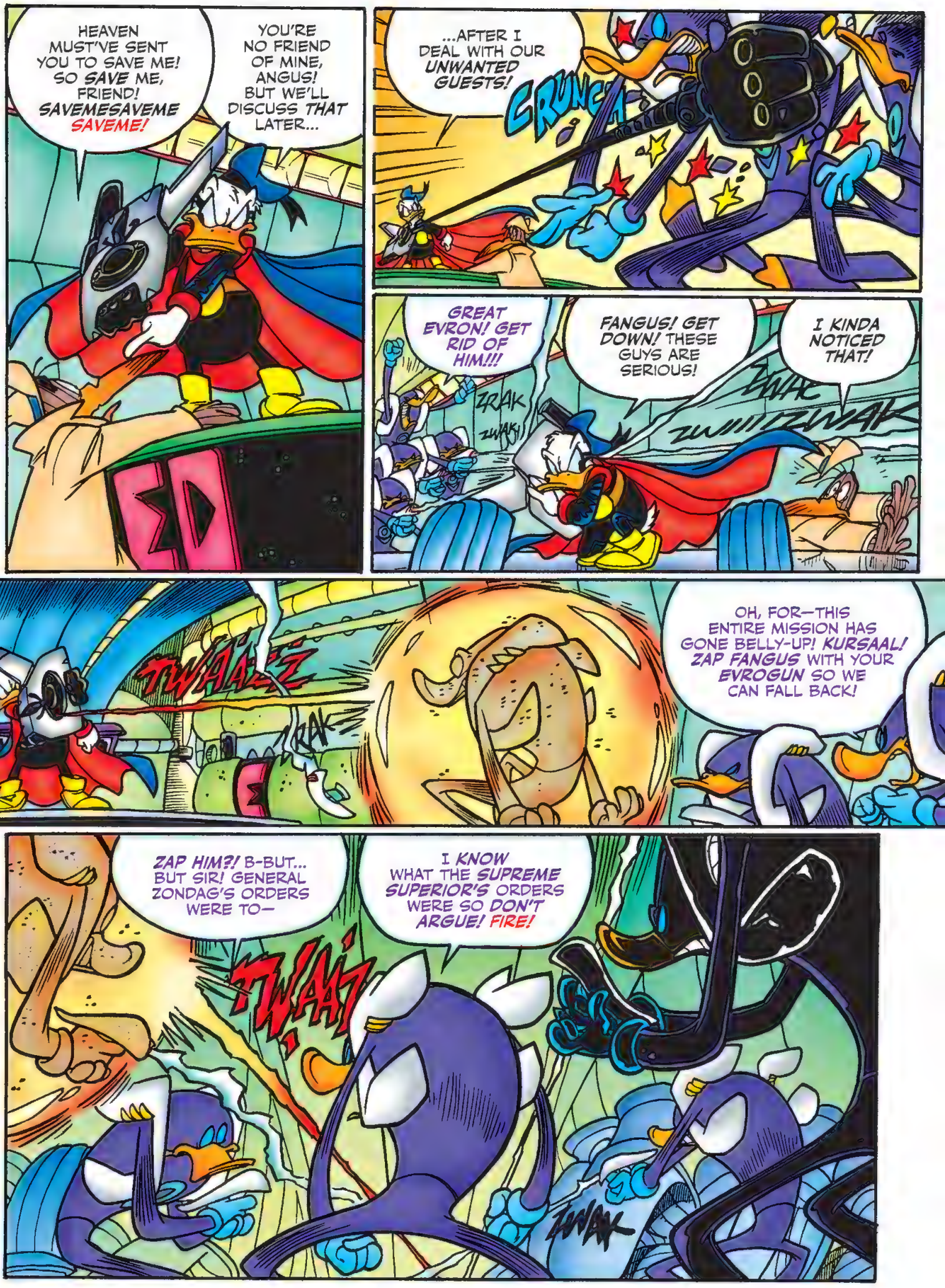

TIME FOR SOME SHUT-EYE...
DING
75
0
DING
:YAWN!:
ANGUS FANGUS? WE'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU...
TOUGH BEANS, MAC. NO AUTOGRAPHS.


NOW, THAT'S NO WAY TO TREAT YOUR ADMIRERS! WE'VE TRAVELED LIGHT-YEARS TO SEE YOU— AND THIS IS HOW YOU THANK US?
WHA—?
GET HIM!
I DUNNO WHO YOU ARE, BUT I KNOW ONE THING...
HA!
!
TONK
CRASH
...YOU AIN'T NABBIN' ME THAT EASY!

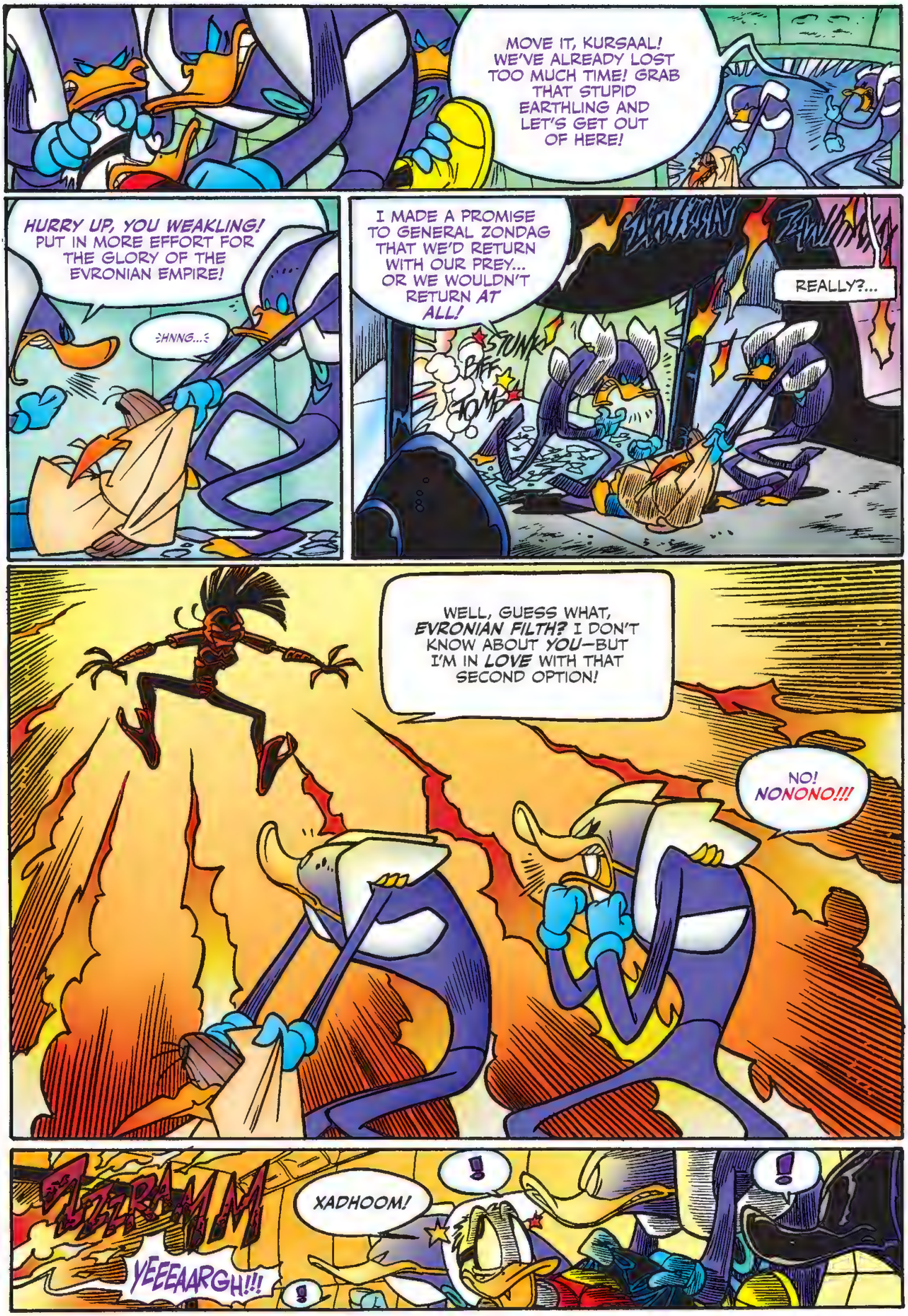

W-WHAT DO YOU WANT? WHO—WHAT ARE YOU?!
YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER US? MY, YOU HAVE A SHORT MEMORY! YOU SEE, WE'VE ALREADY MET...*
EVRONIANS!
WHAT ON EARTH?!
RED ALERT! TWO PATROLS HAVE SURROUNDED THE BUILDING'S PERIMETER! FIVE ALIEN ELEMENTS DETECTED!
TALK ABOUT AN EMERGENCY! AND THEY'RE ATTACKING ANGUS!
BEEEPBEEEPBEEEPB

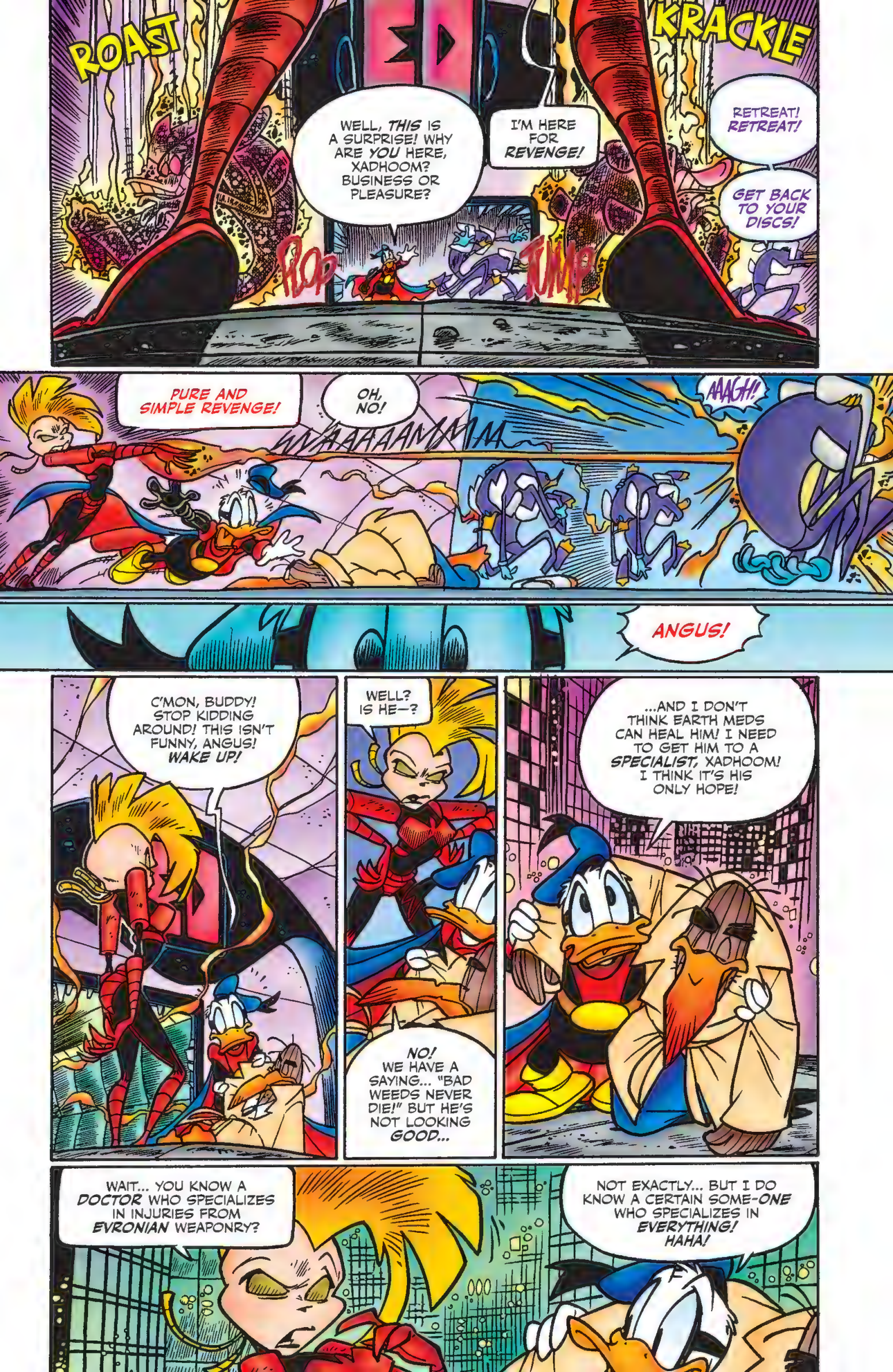

AHAAURG!!!
DON'T HURT HIM! STOP HIM!
CHOMP!
HURT HIM?! HE'S THE ONE HURTING US!!
HURRY UP AND OPEN UP!!!
STUPID, STUPID EARTH CREATURE! DO YOU THINK A MERE DOOR...
THUMP
HALP!
...CAN STOP AN EVRONIAN WARRIOR?!
SLIDE!
THE ANSWER IS "YES!"
THWHAM!
♫ DING! ♫ DUCKLAIR TOWER INTRUDER EXCLUDER SYSTEM ACTIVATED!
:GURK!:

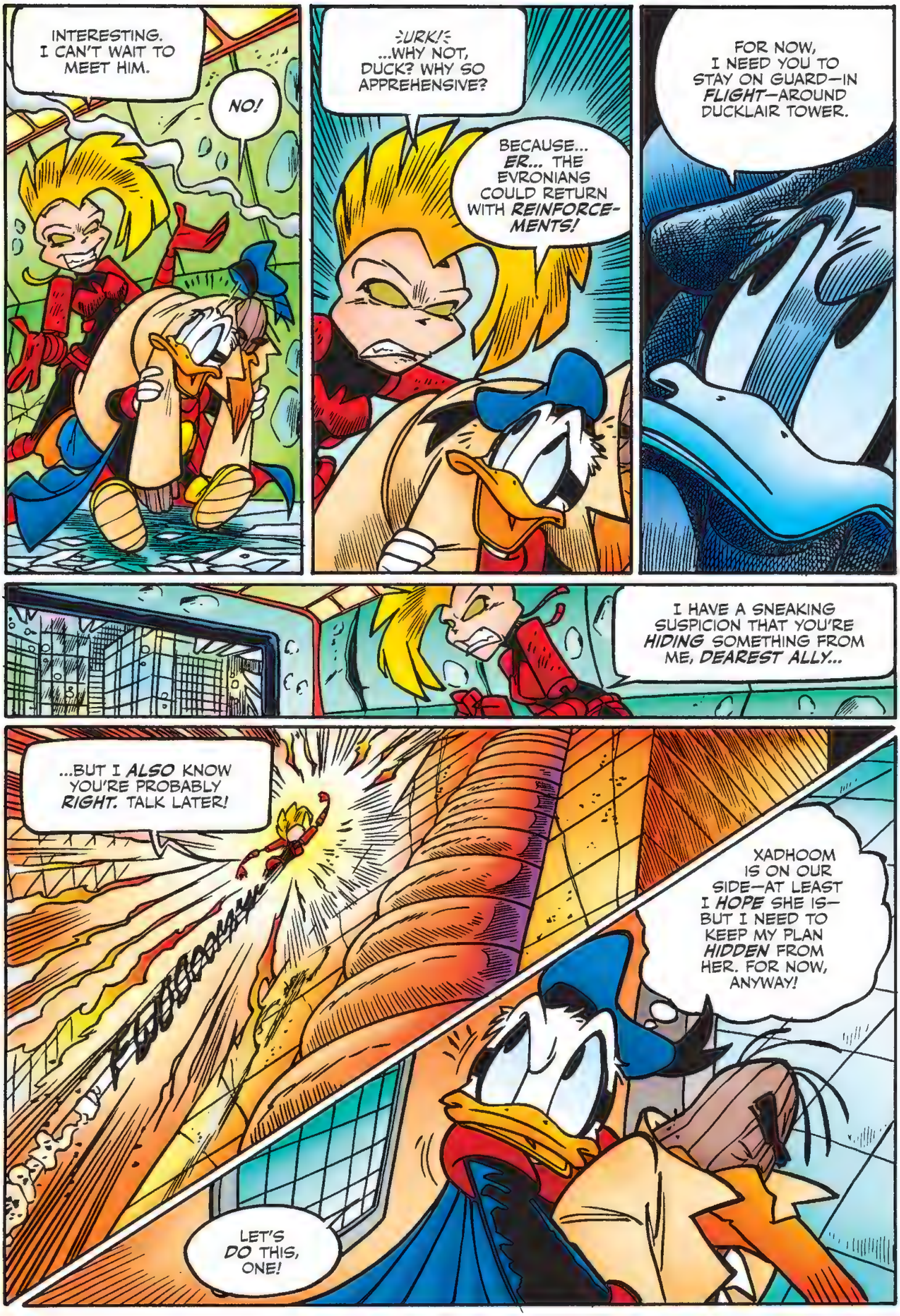
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! OPEN IT, YOU DOLTS!
HELP! SOMEBODY HELP ME! IS ANYBODY HERE?!... THE JANITOR! WHERE'S THAT JANITOR?!
THUD BONK
BONK
THUD
BONK
THAT DANGED DUCK'S NEVER AROUND WHEN YA NEED HIM!
!
!
LOOKING FOR SOMEONE, FANGUS?
THUMP
DUCK AVENGER!
MY FRIENDS SHORTEN IT TO D.A.! BUT YOU CREEPS CAN CALL ME MR. DUCK AVENGER!

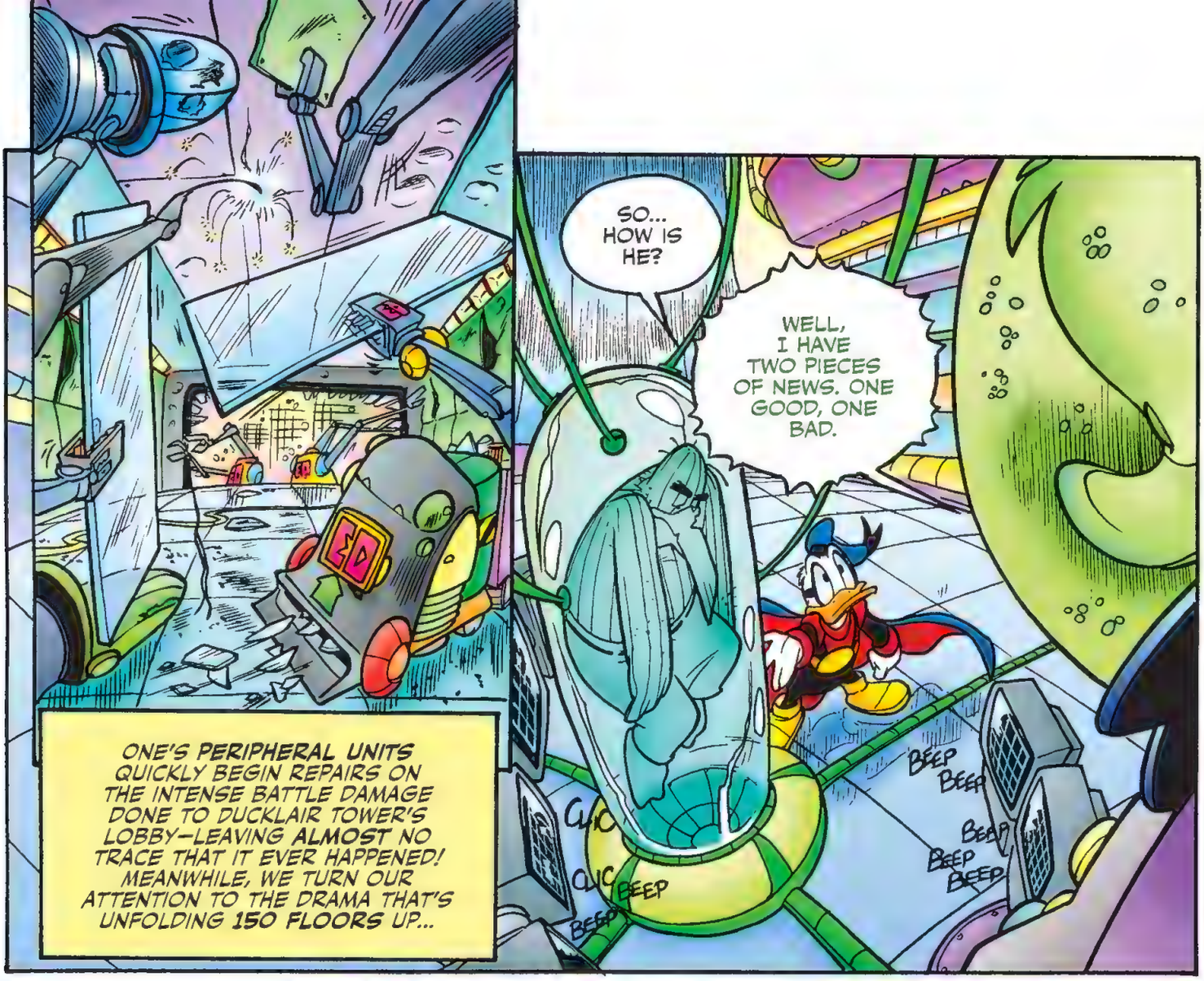

HEAVEN MUST'VE SENT YOU TO SAVE ME! SO SAVE ME, FRIEND! SAVEMESAVEME SAVEME!
YOU'RE NO FRIEND OF MINE, ANGUS! BUT WE'LL DISCUSS THAT LATER...
...AFTER I DEAL WITH OUR UNWANTED GUESTS!
CRUNCH
GREAT EVRON! GET RID OF HIM!!!
FANGUS! GET DOWN! THESE GUYS ARE SERIOUS!
I KINDA NOTICED THAT!
ZRAK
ZWAK
ZWIIIZWAK
TWAAZZ
OH, FOR—THIS ENTIRE MISSION HAS GONE BELLY-UP! KURSAAL! ZAP FANGUS WITH YOUR EVROGUN SO WE CAN FALL BACK!
ZAP HIM?! B-BUT... BUT SIR! GENERAL ZONDAG'S ORDERS WERE TO—
I KNOW WHAT THE SUPREME SUPERIOR'S ORDERS WERE SO DON'T ARGUE! FIRE!
TWAAZ
ZWAK

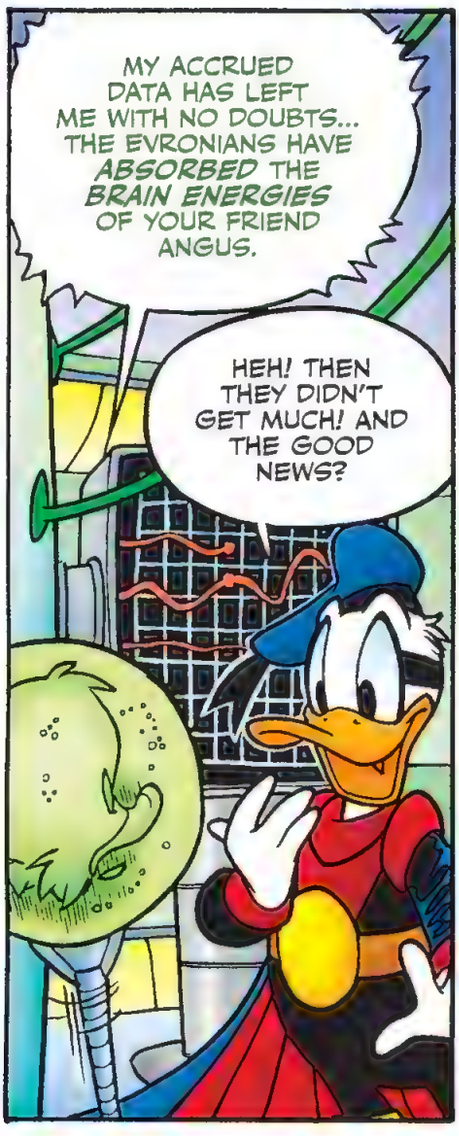
ANGUS!
ZORCH
:URGH!:
IF YOU STUPID EVRONIANS WANNA PLAY HARDBALL... THAT'S FINE BY ME!
CLACK
YOU FAILURE!
THWACK
OUCH!
STUNK
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! GET HIM! HE'S UNARMED!
WHUH-OH!


MOVE IT, KURSAAL! WE'VE ALREADY LOST TOO MUCH TIME! GRAB THAT STUPID EARTHLING AND LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
HURRY UP, YOU WEAKLING! PUT IN MORE EFFORT FOR THE GLORY OF THE EVRONIAN EMPIRE!
:HNNG...:
I MADE A PROMISE TO GENERAL ZONDAG THAT WE'D RETURN WITH OUR PREY... OR WE WOULDN'T RETURN AT ALL!
STUNK
BIFF
TOMP
REALLY?...
WELL, GUESS WHAT, EVRONIAN FILTH? I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU—BUT I'M IN LOVE WITH THAT SECOND OPTION!
NO! NONONO!!!
YEEEAARGH!!!
XADHOOM!

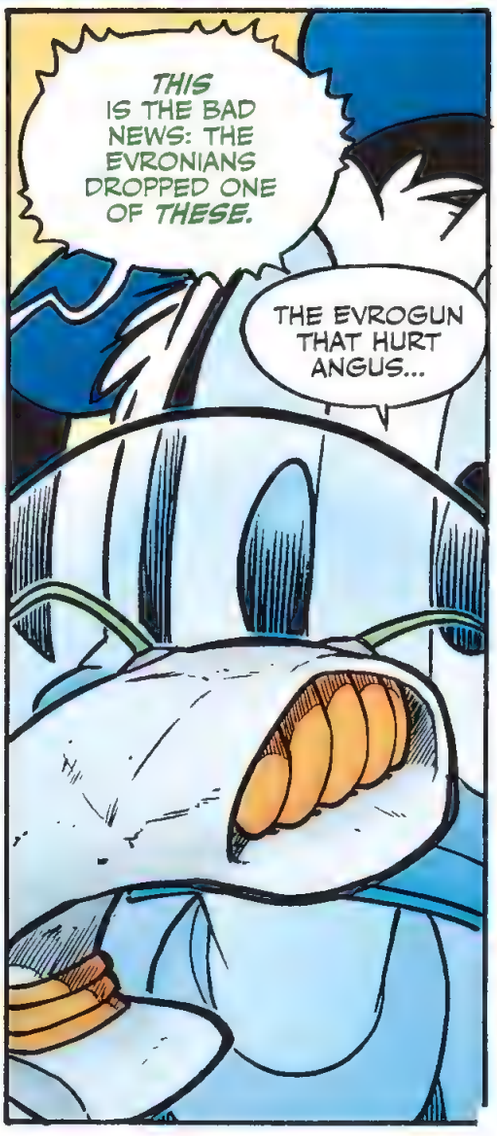

ROAST
KRACKLE
WELL, THIS IS A SURPRISE! WHY ARE YOU HERE, XADHOOM? BUSINESS OR PLEASURE?
I'M HERE FOR REVENGE!
RETREAT! RETREAT!
GET BACK TO YOUR DISCS!
ROP
TUMP
PURE AND SIMPLE REVENGE!
OH, NO!
WAAAAAAMMM
AAAGH!
ANGUS!
C'MON, BUDDY! STOP KIDDING AROUND! THIS ISN'T FUNNY, ANGUS! WAKE UP!
WELL? IS HE—?
NO! WE HAVE A SAYING... "BAD WEEDS NEVER DIE!" BUT HE'S NOT LOOKING GOOD...
...AND I DON'T THINK EARTH MEDS CAN HEAL HIM! I NEED TO GET HIM TO A SPECIALIST, XADHOOM! I THINK IT'S HIS ONLY HOPE!
WAIT... YOU KNOW A DOCTOR WHO SPECIALIZES IN INJURIES FROM EVRONIAN WEAPONRY?
NOT EXACTLY... BUT I DO KNOW A CERTAIN SOME-ONE WHO SPECIALIZES IN EVERYTHING! HAHA!

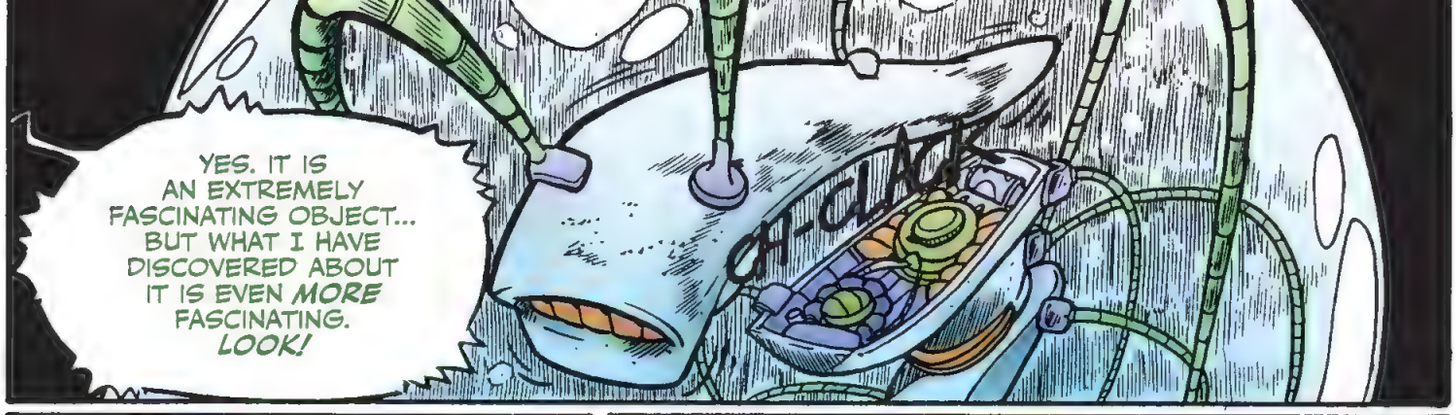

INTERESTING. I CAN'T WAIT TO MEET HIM.
NO!
:URK!: ...WHY NOT, DUCK? WHY SO APPREHENSIVE?
BECAUSE... ER... THE EVRONIANS COULD RETURN WITH REINFORCE-MENTS!
FOR NOW, I NEED YOU TO STAY ON GUARD—IN FLIGHT—AROUND DUCKLAIR TOWER.
I HAVE A SNEAKING SUSPICION THAT YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME, DEAREST ALLY...
...BUT I ALSO KNOW YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT. TALK LATER!
XADHOOM IS ON OUR SIDE—AT LEAST I HOPE SHE IS—BUT I NEED TO KEEP MY PLAN HIDDEN FROM HER. FOR NOW, ANYWAY!
LET'S DO THIS, ONE!

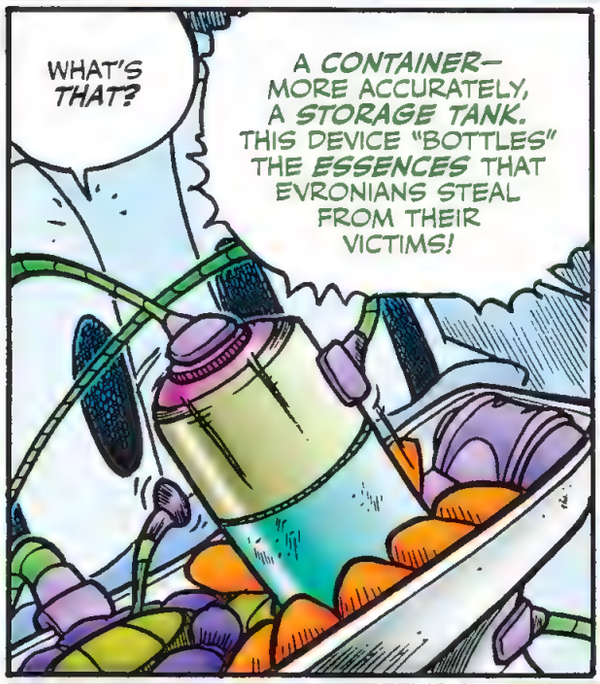

SO... HOW IS HE?
WELL, I HAVE TWO PIECES OF NEWS. ONE GOOD, ONE BAD.
ONE'S PERIPHERAL UNITS QUICKLY BEGIN REPAIRS ON THE INTENSE BATTLE DAMAGE DONE TO DUCKLAIR TOWER'S LOBBY—LEAVING ALMOST NO TRACE THAT IT EVER HAPPENED! MEANWHILE, WE TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THE DRAMA THAT'S UNFOLDING 150 FLOORS UP...
BEEP BEEP
BEEP
BEEP BEEP
CLIC
CLIC BEEP
BEEP

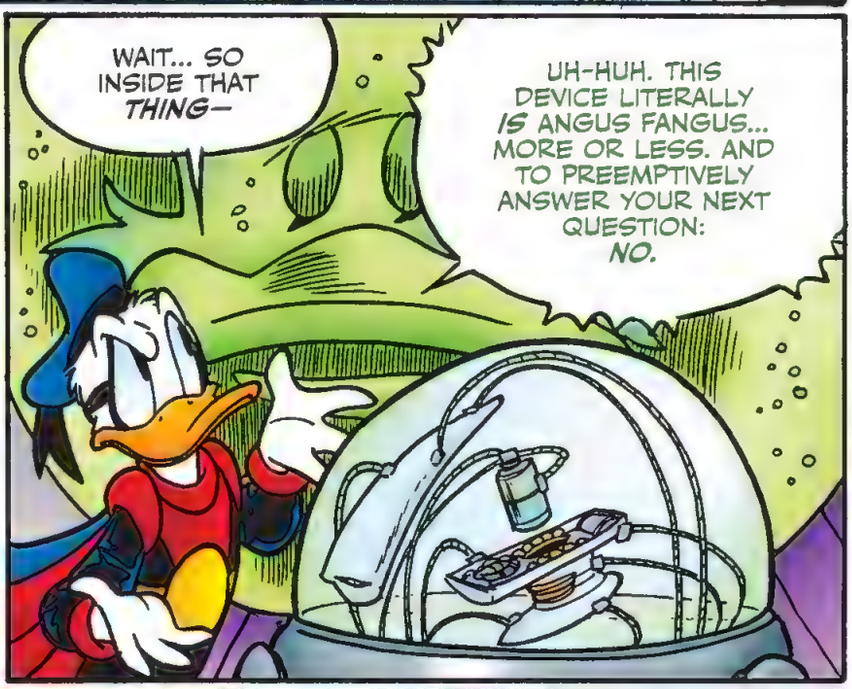

MY ACCRUED DATA HAS LEFT ME WITH NO DOUBTS... THE EVRONIANS HAVE ABSORBED THE BRAIN ENERGIES OF YOUR FRIEND ANGUS.
HEH! THEN THEY DIDN'T GET MUCH! AND THE GOOD NEWS?

THAT WAS THE GOOD NEWS.
OH. THAT'S TERRIFYING. SO WHAT'S THE BAD NEWS?

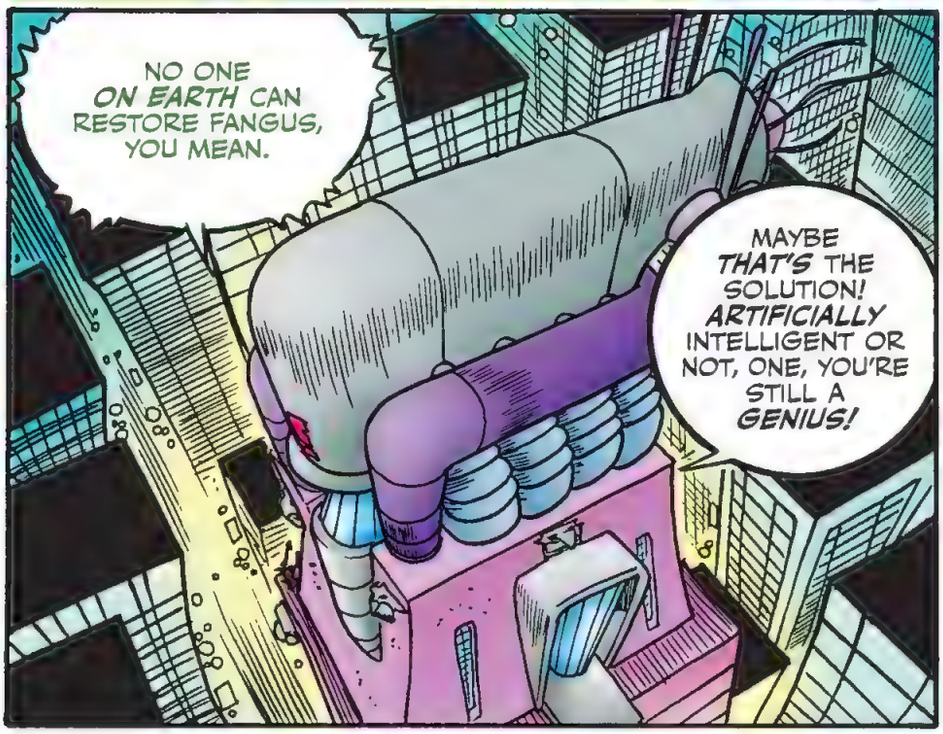

THIS IS THE BAD NEWS: THE EVRONIANS DROPPED ONE OF THESE.
THE EVROGUN THAT HURT ANGUS...

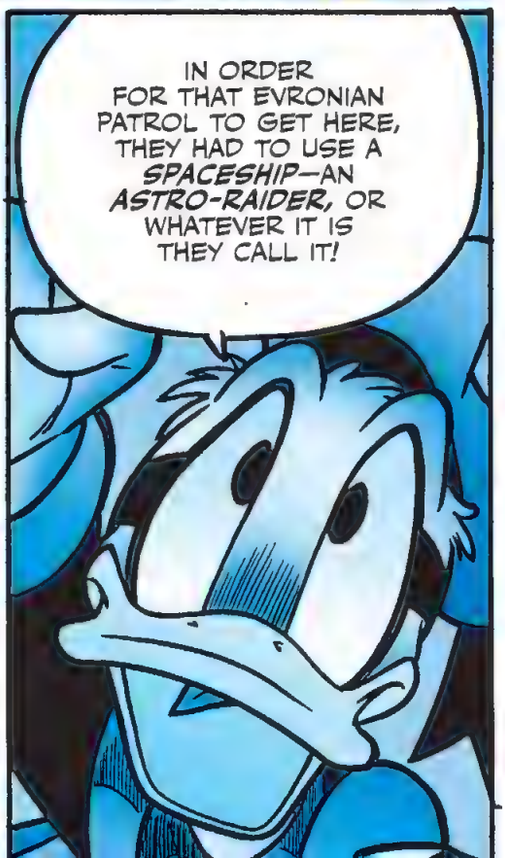

YES. IT IS AN EXTREMELY FASCINATING OBJECT... BUT WHAT I HAVE DISCOVERED ABOUT IT IS EVEN *MORE* FASCINATING. *LOOK!*
CH-CLACK

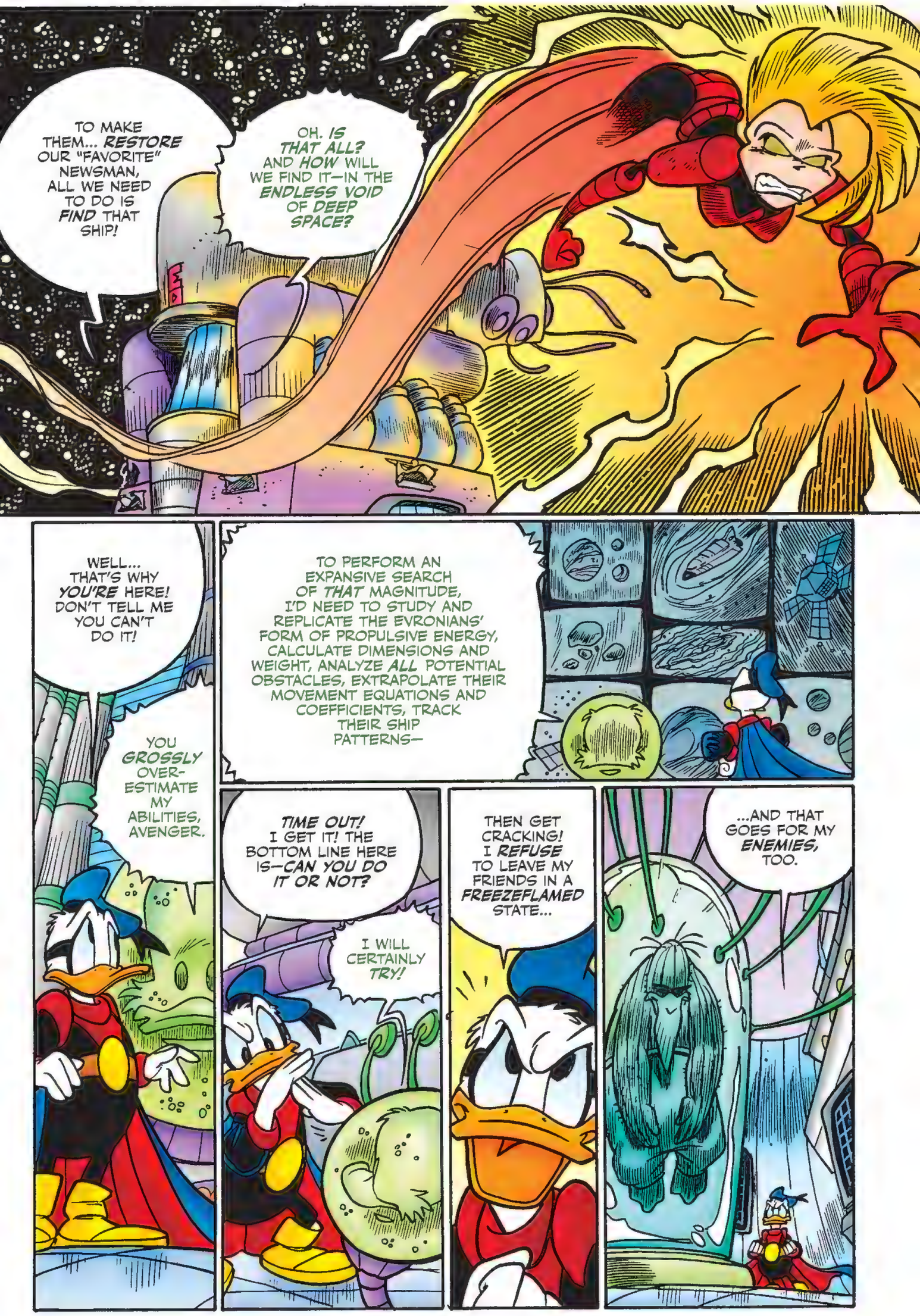

WHAT'S *THAT?*
A *CONTAINER*— MORE ACCURATELY, A *STORAGE TANK.* THIS DEVICE "BOTTLES" THE *ESSENCES* THAT EVRONIANS STEAL FROM THEIR VICTIMS!


WAIT... SO INSIDE THAT *THING*—
UH-HUH. THIS DEVICE LITERALLY *IS* ANGUS FANGUS... MORE OR LESS. AND TO PREEMPTIVELY ANSWER YOUR NEXT QUESTION: *NO.*

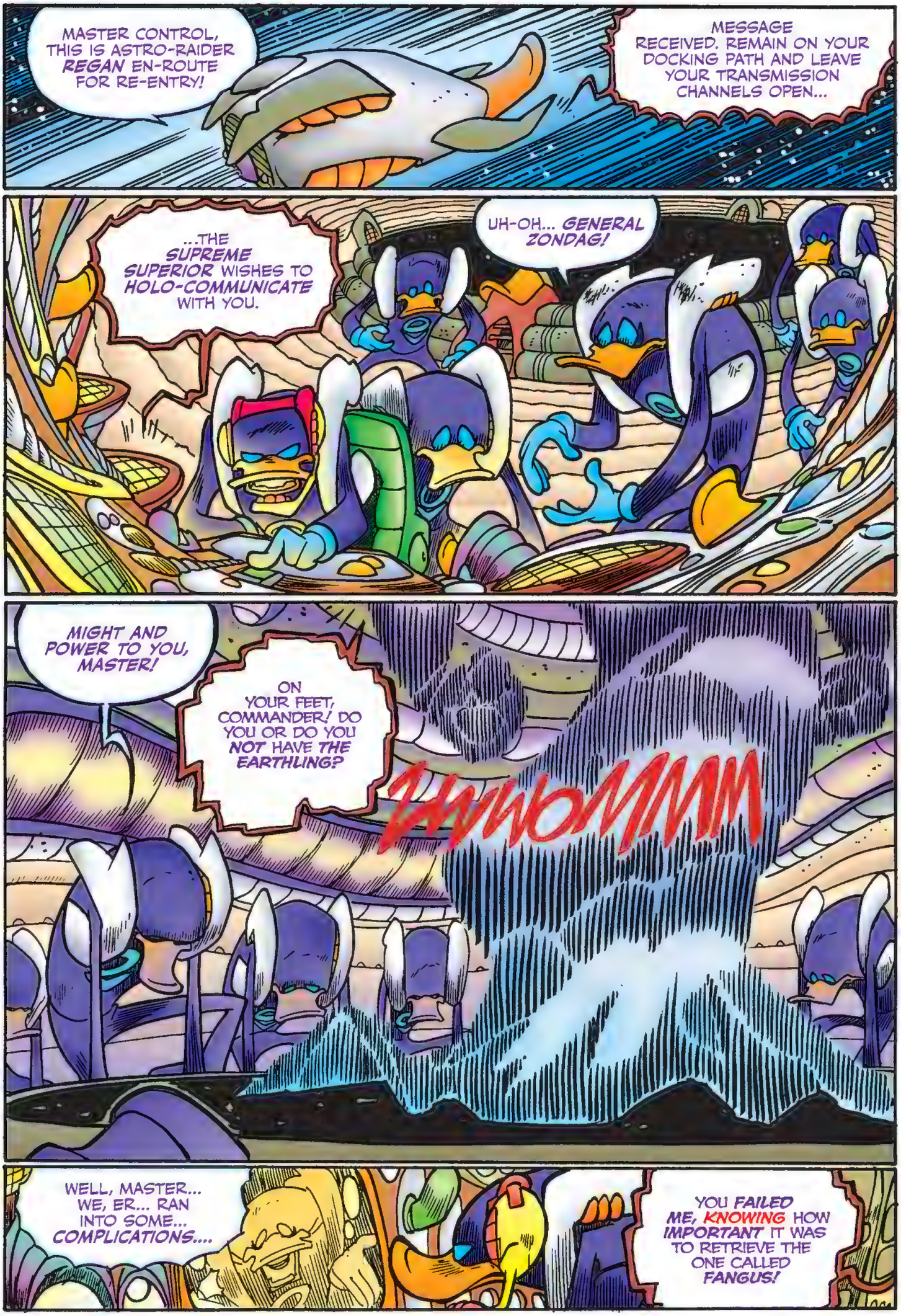
I *CANNOT* FIND ANY CONCEIVABLE WAY TO REVERSE THIS PROCESS AND BRING FANGUS BACK TO HIS NORMAL, NATURAL STATE.
BUT, IF *YOU* CAN'T RESTORE HIM... THEN *NO* ONE CAN.

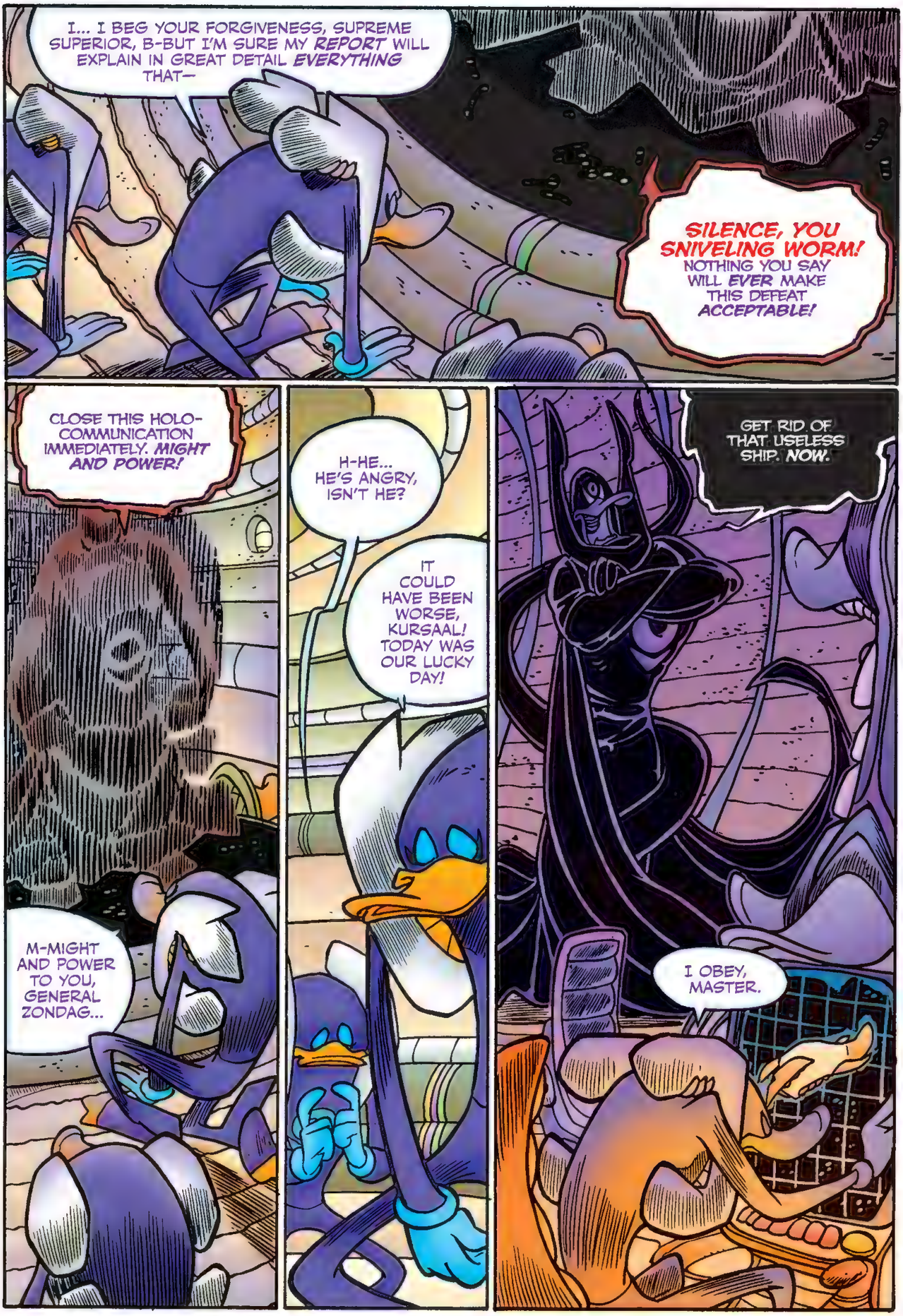

NO ONE *ON EARTH* CAN RESTORE FANGUS, YOU MEAN.
MAYBE *THAT'S* THE SOLUTION! *ARTIFICIALLY* INTELLIGENT OR NOT, ONE, YOU'RE STILL A *GENIUS!*

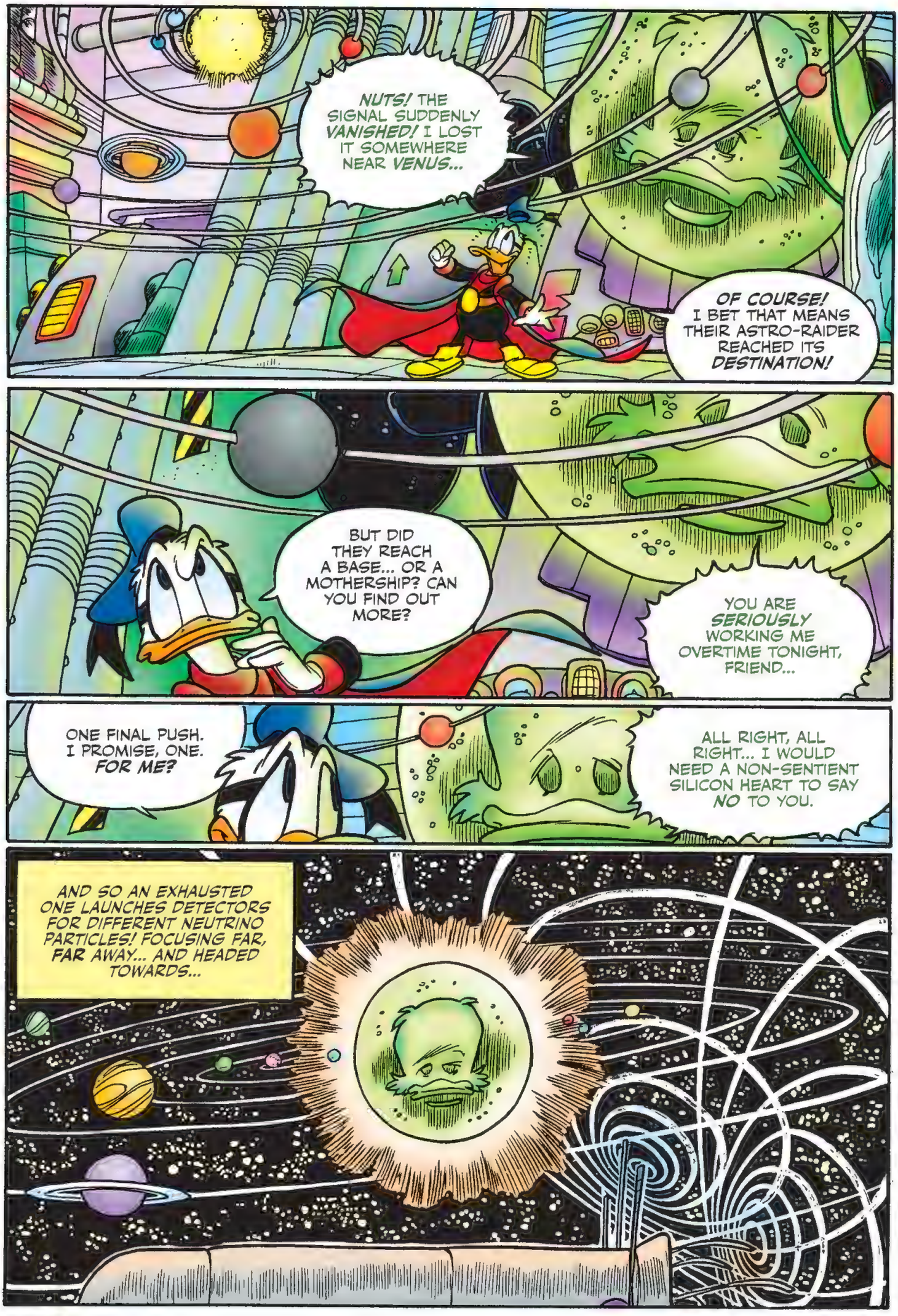

IN ORDER FOR THAT EVRONIAN PATROL TO GET HERE, THEY HAD TO USE A *SPACESHIP*—AN *ASTRO-RAIDER,* OR WHATEVER IT IS THEY CALL IT!

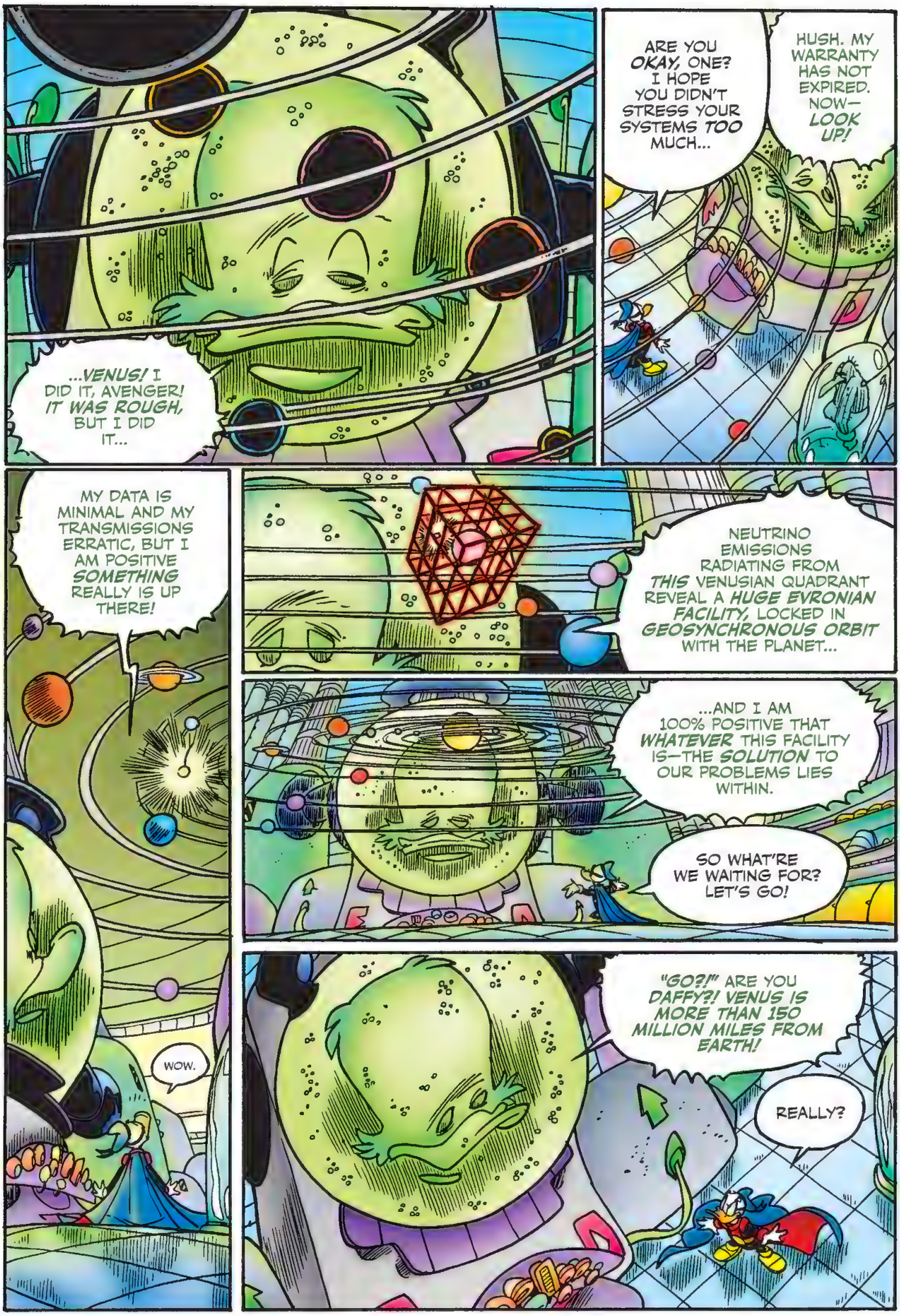

TO MAKE THEM... *RESTORE* OUR "FAVORITE" NEWSMAN, ALL WE NEED TO DO IS *FIND* THAT SHIP!
OH. *IS THAT ALL?* AND *HOW* WILL WE FIND IT—IN THE *ENDLESS VOID* OF *DEEP SPACE?*
WELL... THAT'S WHY *YOU'RE* HERE! DON'T TELL ME YOU CAN'T DO IT!
YOU *GROSSLY* OVER-ESTIMATE MY ABILITIES, AVENGER.
TO PERFORM AN EXPANSIVE SEARCH OF *THAT* MAGNITUDE, I'D NEED TO STUDY AND REPLICATE THE EVRONIANS' FORM OF PROPULSIVE ENERGY, CALCULATE DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT, ANALYZE *ALL* POTENTIAL OBSTACLES, EXTRAPOLATE THEIR MOVEMENT EQUATIONS AND COEFFICIENTS, TRACK THEIR SHIP PATTERNS—
TIME OUT! I GET IT! THE BOTTOM LINE HERE IS—*CAN YOU DO IT OR NOT?*
I WILL CERTAINLY *TRY!*
THEN GET CRACKING! I *REFUSE* TO LEAVE MY FRIENDS IN A *FREEZEFLAMED* STATE...
...AND THAT GOES FOR MY *ENEMIES,* TOO.

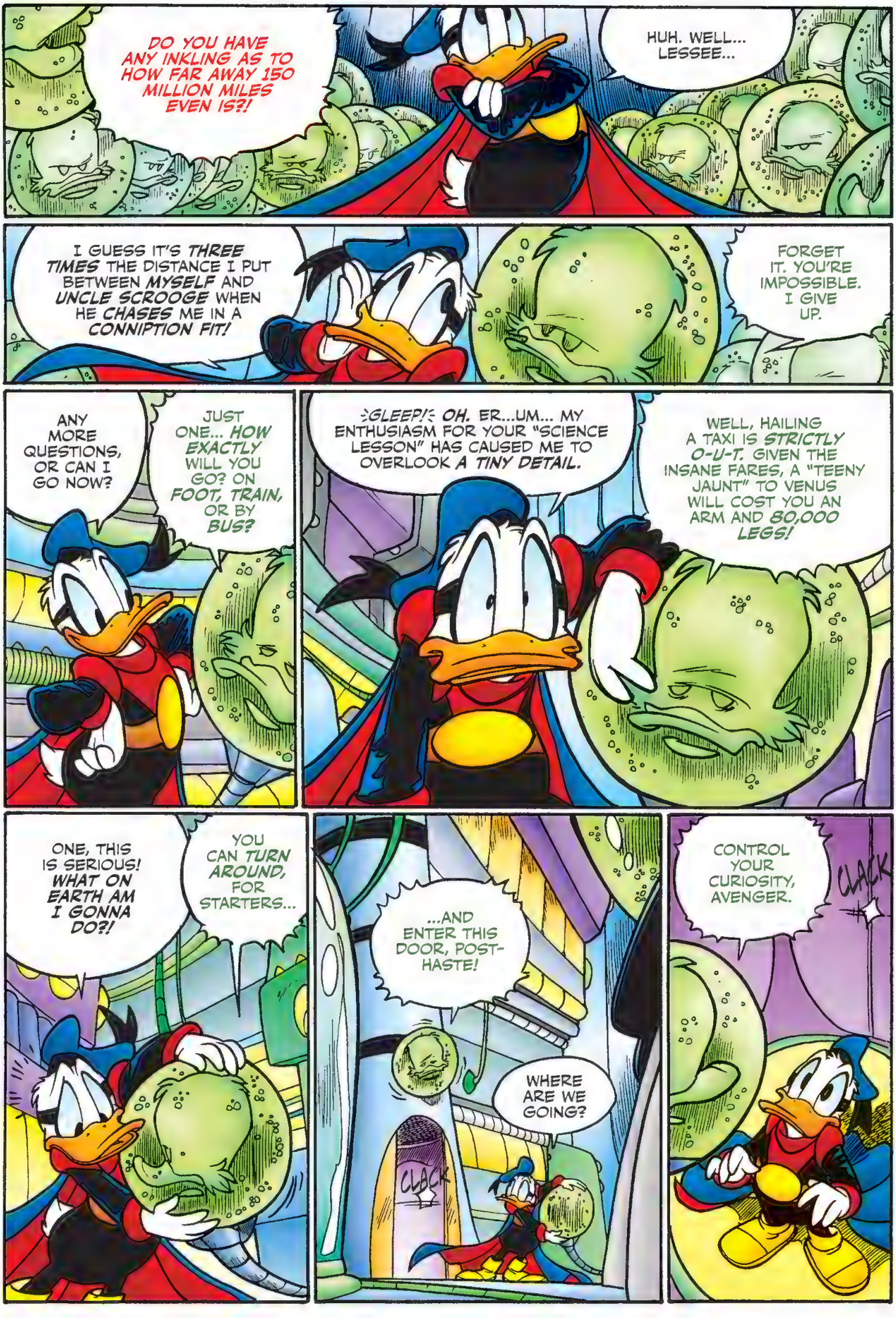
THE POWERFUL ANTENNAE AT THE TOP OF DUCKLAIR TOWER ACTIVATE...
VWORN
...AND IN A DEAFENING SILENCE—BROKEN ONLY BY THE LILTING HUM OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES—ONE BEGINS HIS OPERATION!
BRRRRRRRZZZZ
FOR HOURS, BILLIONS OF BITS OF DATA FLOW IN AND OUT OF EVERY KNOWN CORNER OF THE COSMOS...
...DATA THAT THE SUPERCOMPUTER METICULOUSLY SCRUTINIZES, SEARCHING FOR ANY KIND OF A SIGNAL...
...OF A PASSAGE...
...OF AN ANSWER.
FOUND YOU.

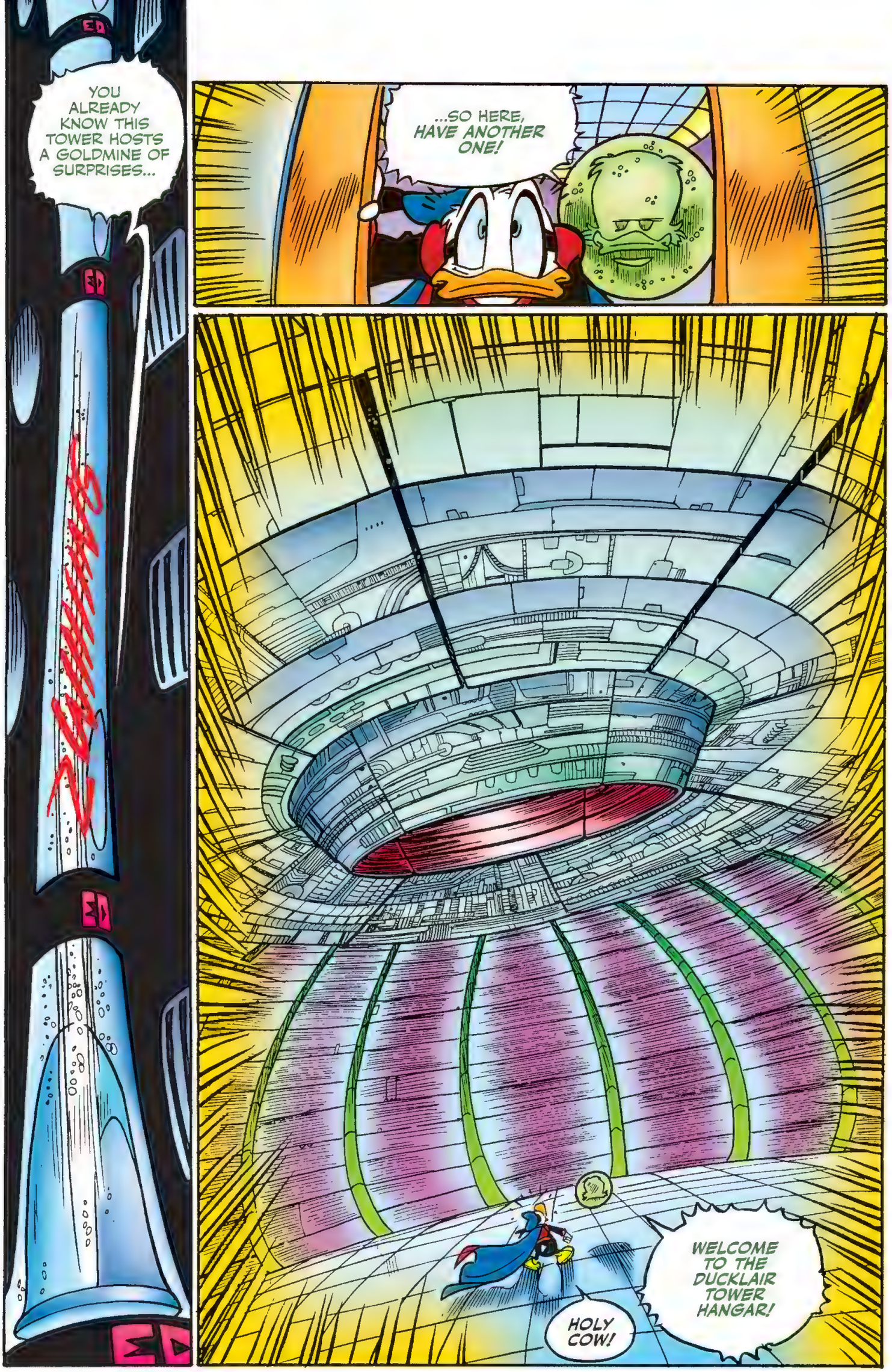

MASTER CONTROL, THIS IS ASTRO-RAIDER REGAN EN-ROUTE FOR RE-ENTRY!
MESSAGE RECEIVED. REMAIN ON YOUR DOCKING PATH AND LEAVE YOUR TRANSMISSION CHANNELS OPEN...
...THE SUPREME SUPERIOR WISHES TO HOLO-COMMUNICATE WITH YOU.
UH-OH... GENERAL ZONDAG!
MIGHT AND POWER TO YOU, MASTER!
ON YOUR FEET, COMMANDER! DO YOU OR DO YOU NOT HAVE THE EARTHLING?
FWOOMMM
WELL, MASTER... WE, ER... RAN INTO SOME... COMPLICATIONS....
YOU FAILED ME, KNOWING HOW IMPORTANT IT WAS TO RETRIEVE THE ONE CALLED FANGUS!

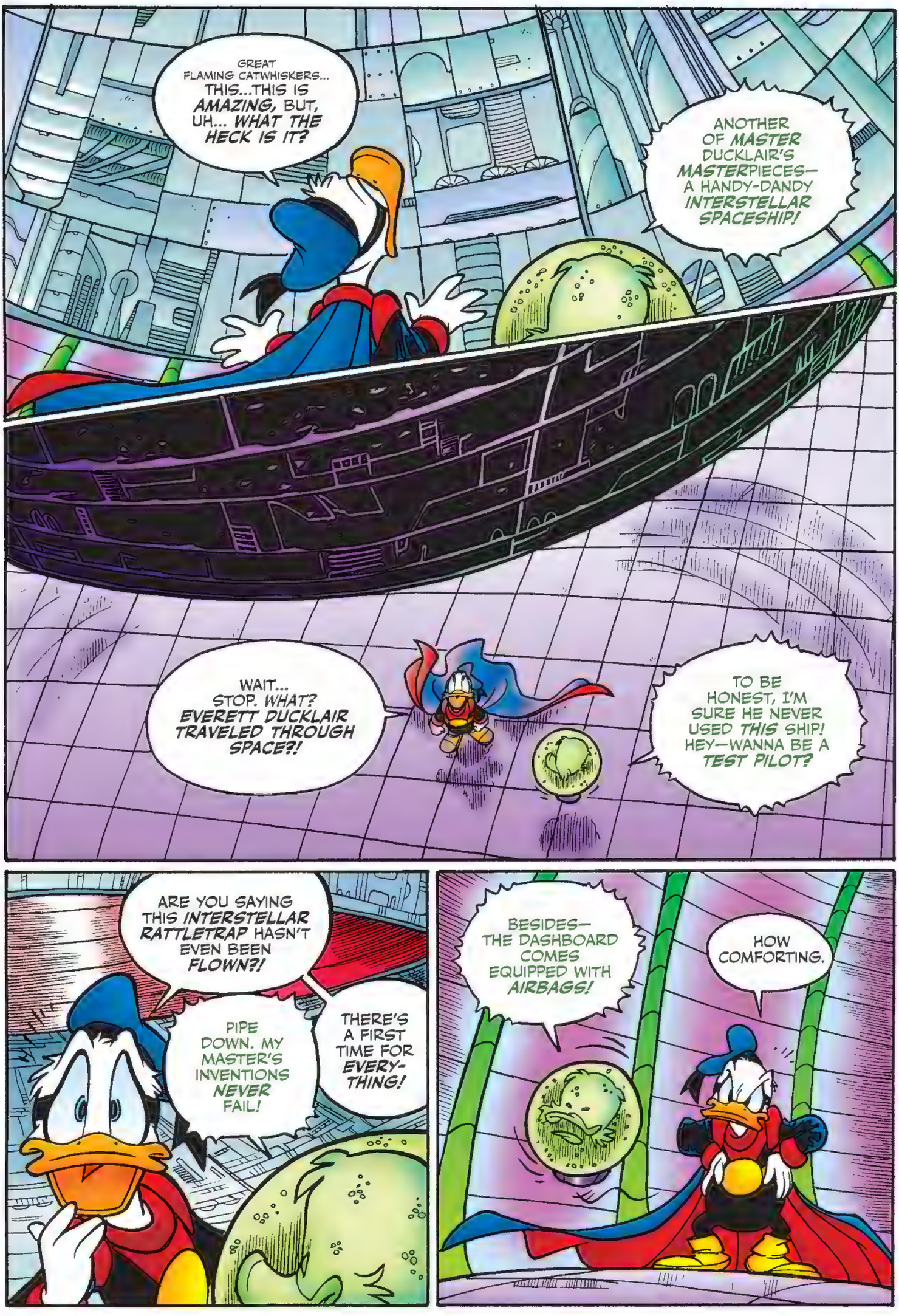

I... I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS, SUPREME SUPERIOR, B-BUT I'M SURE MY *REPORT* WILL EXPLAIN IN GREAT DETAIL *EVERYTHING* THAT—
SILENCE, YOU SNIVELING WORM! NOTHING YOU SAY WILL *EVER* MAKE THIS DEFEAT *ACCEPTABLE!*
CLOSE THIS HOLO-COMMUNICATION IMMEDIATELY. *MIGHT AND POWER!*
M-MIGHT AND POWER TO YOU, GENERAL ZONDAG...
H-HE... HE'S ANGRY, ISN'T HE?
IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE, KURSAAL! TODAY WAS OUR LUCKY DAY!
GET RID OF THAT USELESS SHIP. *NOW.*
I OBEY, MASTER.

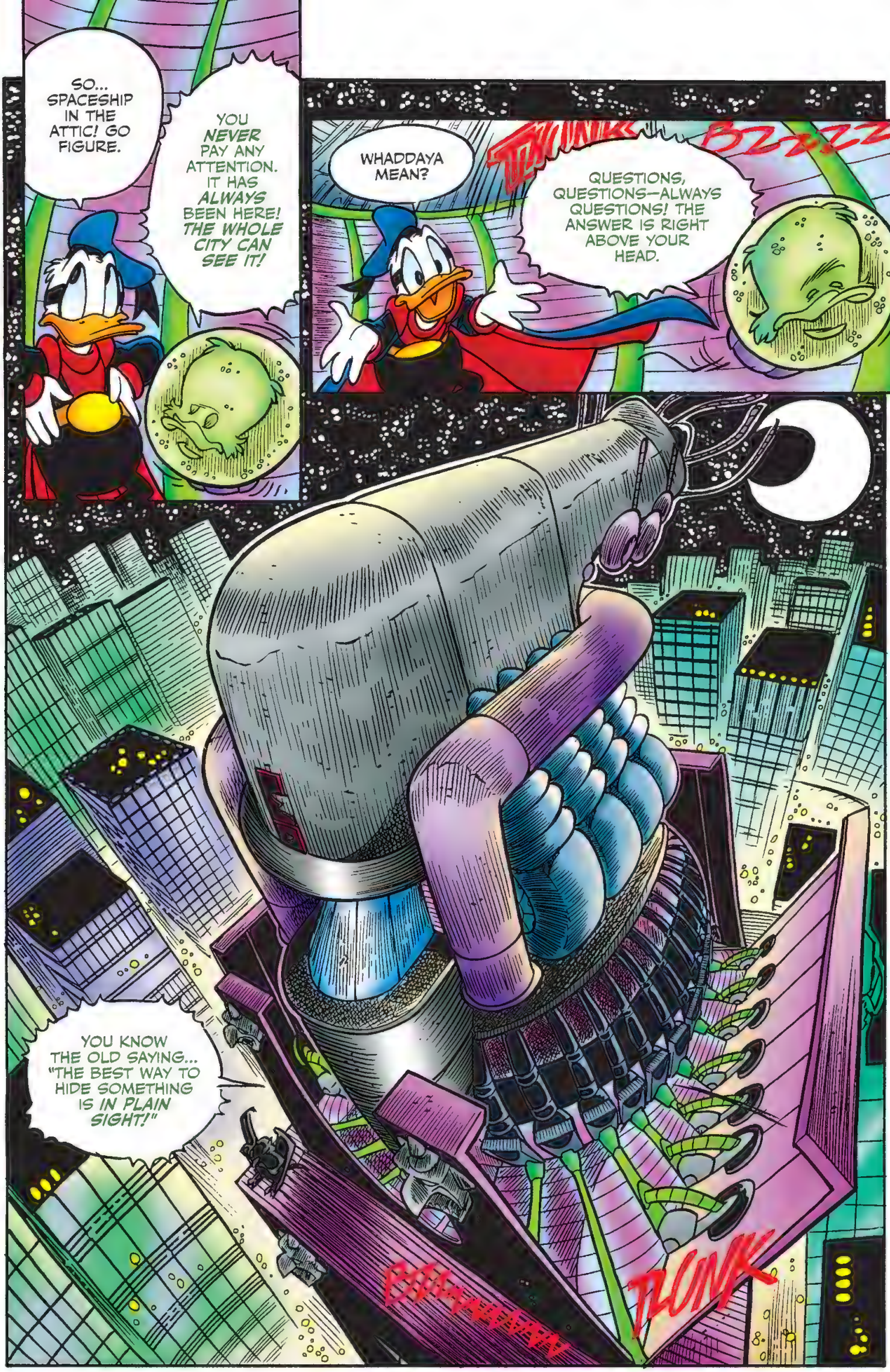

NUTS! THE SIGNAL SUDDENLY VANISHED! I LOST IT SOMEWHERE NEAR VENUS...
OF COURSE! I BET THAT MEANS THEIR ASTRO-RAIDER REACHED ITS DESTINATION!
BUT DID THEY REACH A BASE... OR A MOTHERSHIP? CAN YOU FIND OUT MORE?
YOU ARE SERIOUSLY WORKING ME OVERTIME TONIGHT, FRIEND...
ONE FINAL PUSH. I PROMISE, ONE. FOR ME?
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT... I WOULD NEED A NON-SENTIENT SILICON HEART TO SAY NO TO YOU.
AND SO AN EXHAUSTED ONE LAUNCHES DETECTORS FOR DIFFERENT NEUTRINO PARTICLES! FOCUSING FAR, FAR AWAY... AND HEADED TOWARDS...

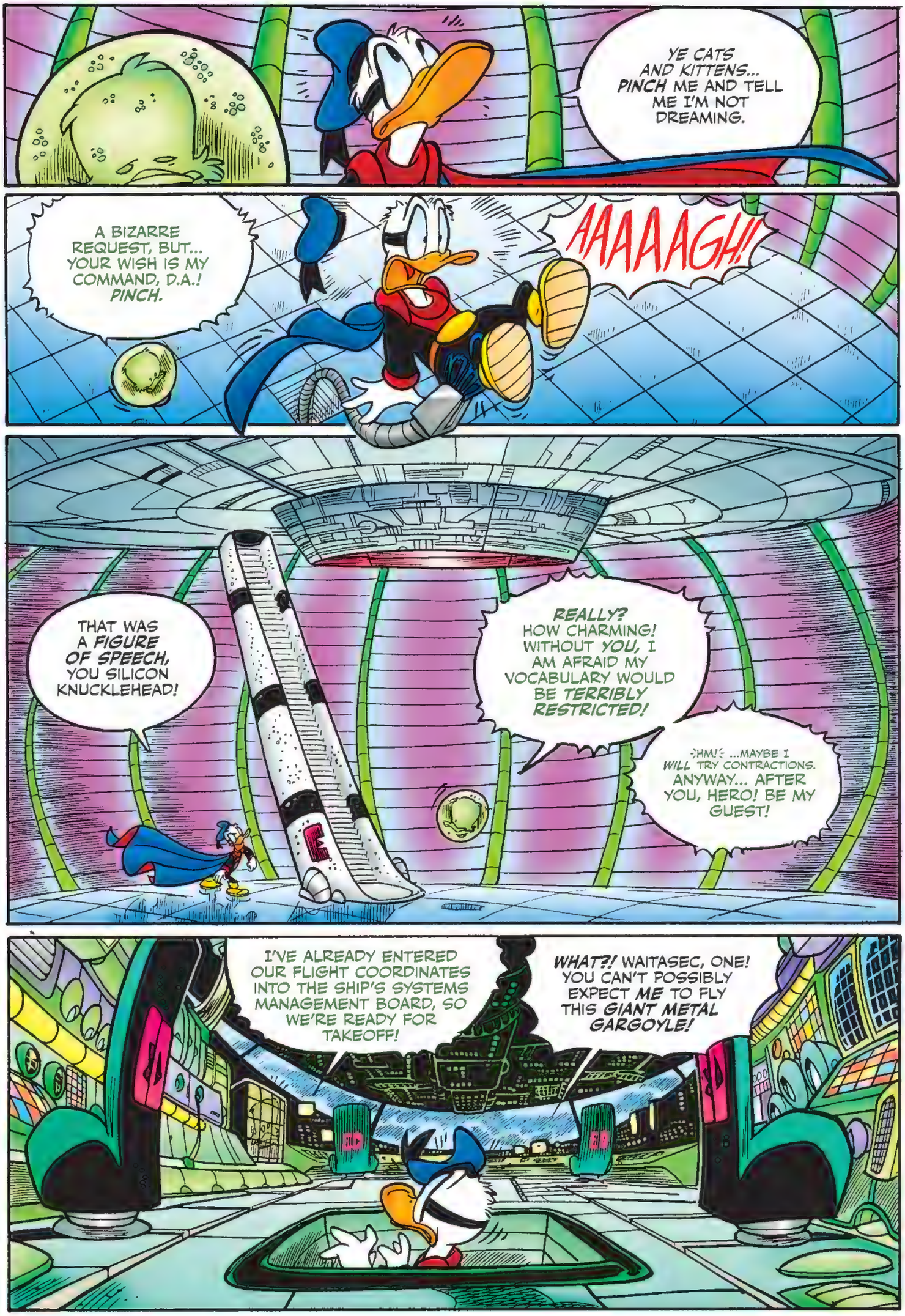

...VENUS! I DID IT, AVENGER! IT WAS ROUGH, BUT I DID IT...
ARE YOU OKAY, ONE? I HOPE YOU DIDN'T STRESS YOUR SYSTEMS TOO MUCH...
HUSH. MY WARRANTY HAS NOT EXPIRED. NOW— LOOK UP!
NEUTRINO EMISSIONS RADIATING FROM THIS VENUSIAN QUADRANT REVEAL A HUGE EVRONIAN FACILITY, LOCKED IN GEOSYNCHRONOUS ORBIT WITH THE PLANET...
MY DATA IS MINIMAL AND MY TRANSMISSIONS ERRATIC, BUT I AM POSITIVE SOMETHING REALLY IS UP THERE!
...AND I AM 100% POSITIVE THAT WHATEVER THIS FACILITY IS—THE SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEMS LIES WITHIN.
SO WHAT'RE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S GO!
WOW.
"GO?!" ARE YOU DAFFY?! VENUS IS MORE THAN 150 MILLION MILES FROM EARTH!
REALLY?


DO YOU HAVE ANY INKLING AS TO HOW FAR AWAY 150 MILLION MILES EVEN IS?!
HUH. WELL... LESSEE...
I GUESS IT'S THREE TIMES THE DISTANCE I PUT BETWEEN MYSELF AND UNCLE SCROOGE WHEN HE CHASES ME IN A CONNIPTION FIT!
FORGET IT. YOU'RE IMPOSSIBLE. I GIVE UP.
ANY MORE QUESTIONS, OR CAN I GO NOW?
JUST ONE... HOW EXACTLY WILL YOU GO? ON FOOT, TRAIN, OR BY BUS?
:GLEEP!: OH. ER...UM... MY ENTHUSIASM FOR YOUR "SCIENCE LESSON" HAS CAUSED ME TO OVERLOOK A TINY DETAIL.
WELL, HAILING A TAXI IS STRICTLY O-U-T. GIVEN THE INSANE FARES, A "TEENY JAUNT" TO VENUS WILL COST YOU AN ARM AND 80,000 LEGS!
ONE, THIS IS SERIOUS! WHAT ON EARTH AM I GONNA DO?!
YOU CAN TURN AROUND, FOR STARTERS...
...AND ENTER THIS DOOR, POST-HASTE!
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
CLACK
CONTROL YOUR CURIOSITY, AVENGER.
CLACK

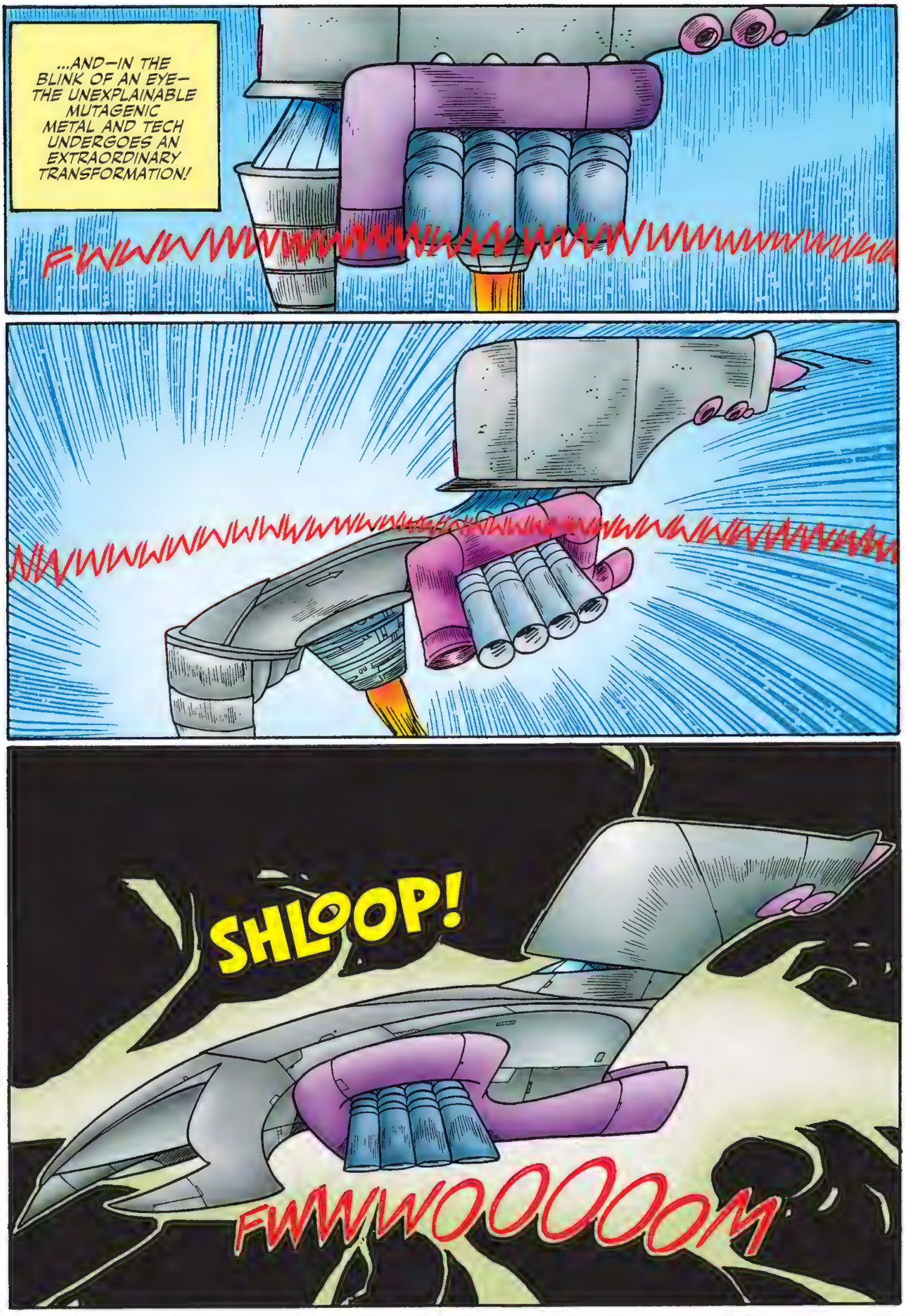

YOU ALREADY KNOW THIS TOWER HOSTS A GOLDMINE OF SURPRISES...
...SO HERE, HAVE ANOTHER ONE!
HOLY COW!
WELCOME TO THE DUCKLAIR TOWER HANGAR!


GREAT FLAMING CATWHISKERS... THIS...THIS IS AMAZING, BUT, UH... WHAT THE HECK IS IT?
ANOTHER OF MASTER DUCKLAIR'S MASTERPIECES— A HANDY-DANDY INTERSTELLAR SPACESHIP!
WAIT... STOP. WHAT? EVERETT DUCKLAIR TRAVELED THROUGH SPACE?!
TO BE HONEST, I'M SURE HE NEVER USED THIS SHIP! HEY—WANNA BE A TEST PILOT?
ARE YOU SAYING THIS INTERSTELLAR RATTLETRAP HASN'T EVEN BEEN FLOWN?!
PIPE DOWN. MY MASTER'S INVENTIONS NEVER FAIL!
THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERY-THING!
BESIDES— THE DASHBOARD COMES EQUIPPED WITH AIRBAGS!
HOW COMFORTING.

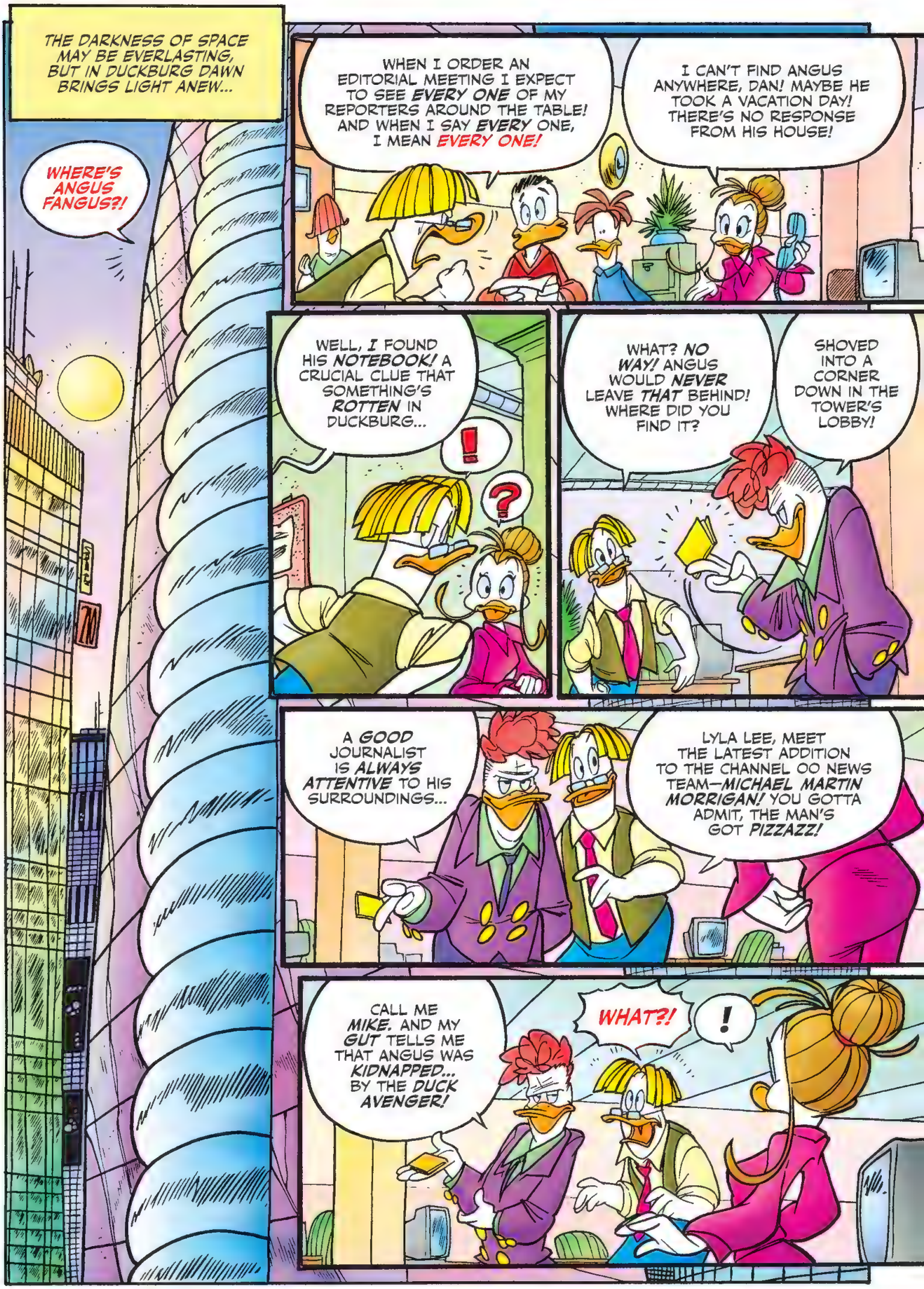

SO... SPACESHIP IN THE ATTIC! GO FIGURE.
YOU NEVER PAY ANY ATTENTION. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN HERE! THE WHOLE CITY CAN SEE IT!
WHADDAYA MEAN?
QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS—ALWAYS QUESTIONS! THE ANSWER IS RIGHT ABOVE YOUR HEAD.
YOU KNOW THE OLD SAYING... "THE BEST WAY TO HIDE SOMETHING IS IN PLAIN SIGHT!"
TLONK

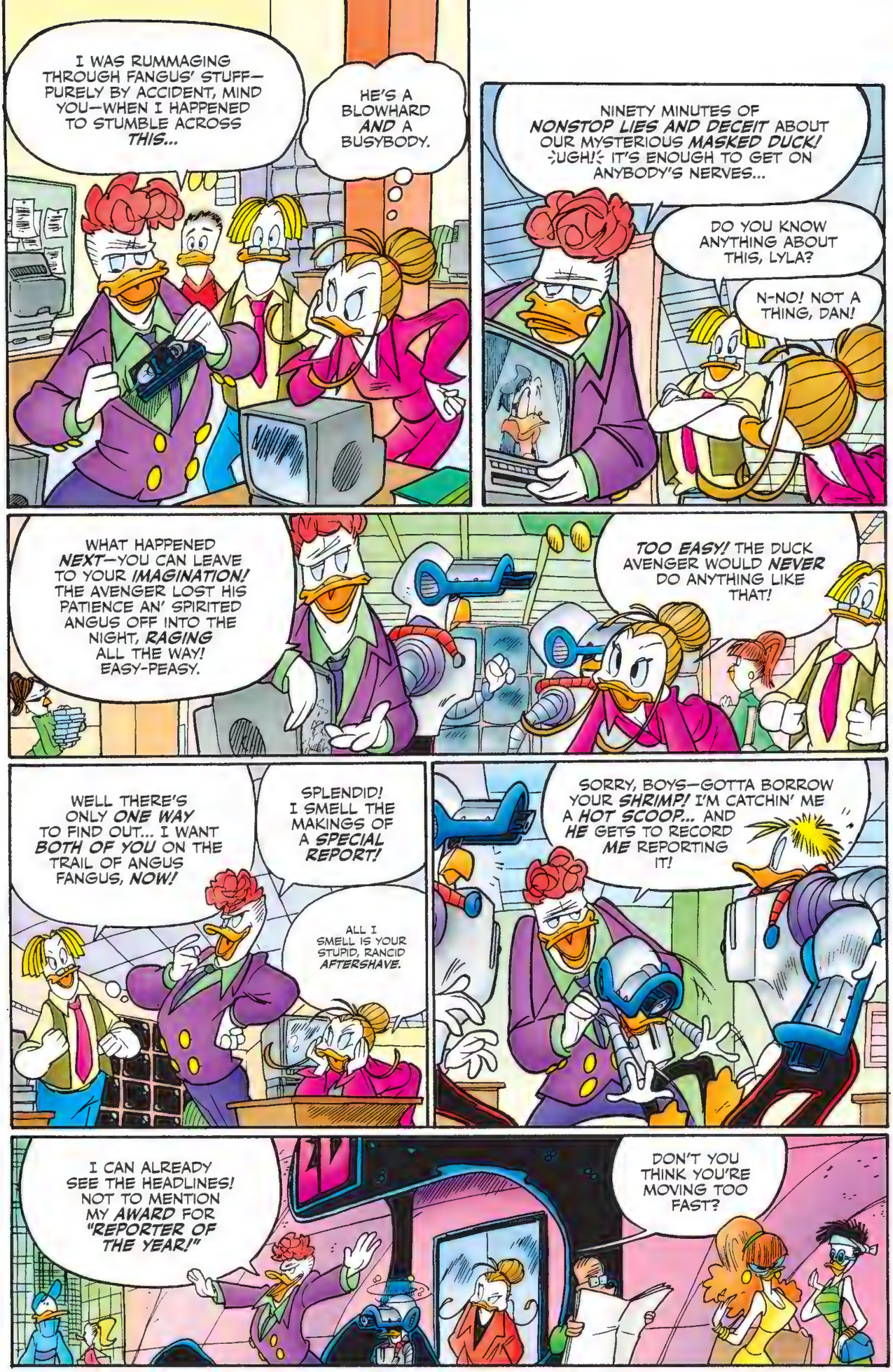

YE CATS AND KITTENS... PINCH ME AND TELL ME I'M NOT DREAMING.
A BIZARRE REQUEST, BUT... YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND, D.A.! PINCH.
AAAAAGH!
THAT WAS A FIGURE OF SPEECH, YOU SILICON KNUCKLEHEAD!
REALLY? HOW CHARMING! WITHOUT YOU, I AM AFRAID MY VOCABULARY WOULD BE TERRIBLY RESTRICTED!
÷HM!÷ ...MAYBE I WILL TRY CONTRACTIONS. ANYWAY... AFTER YOU, HERO! BE MY GUEST!
I'VE ALREADY ENTERED OUR FLIGHT COORDINATES INTO THE SHIP'S SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT BOARD, SO WE'RE READY FOR TAKEOFF!
WHAT?! WAITASEC, ONE! YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY EXPECT ME TO FLY THIS GIANT METAL GARGOYLE!

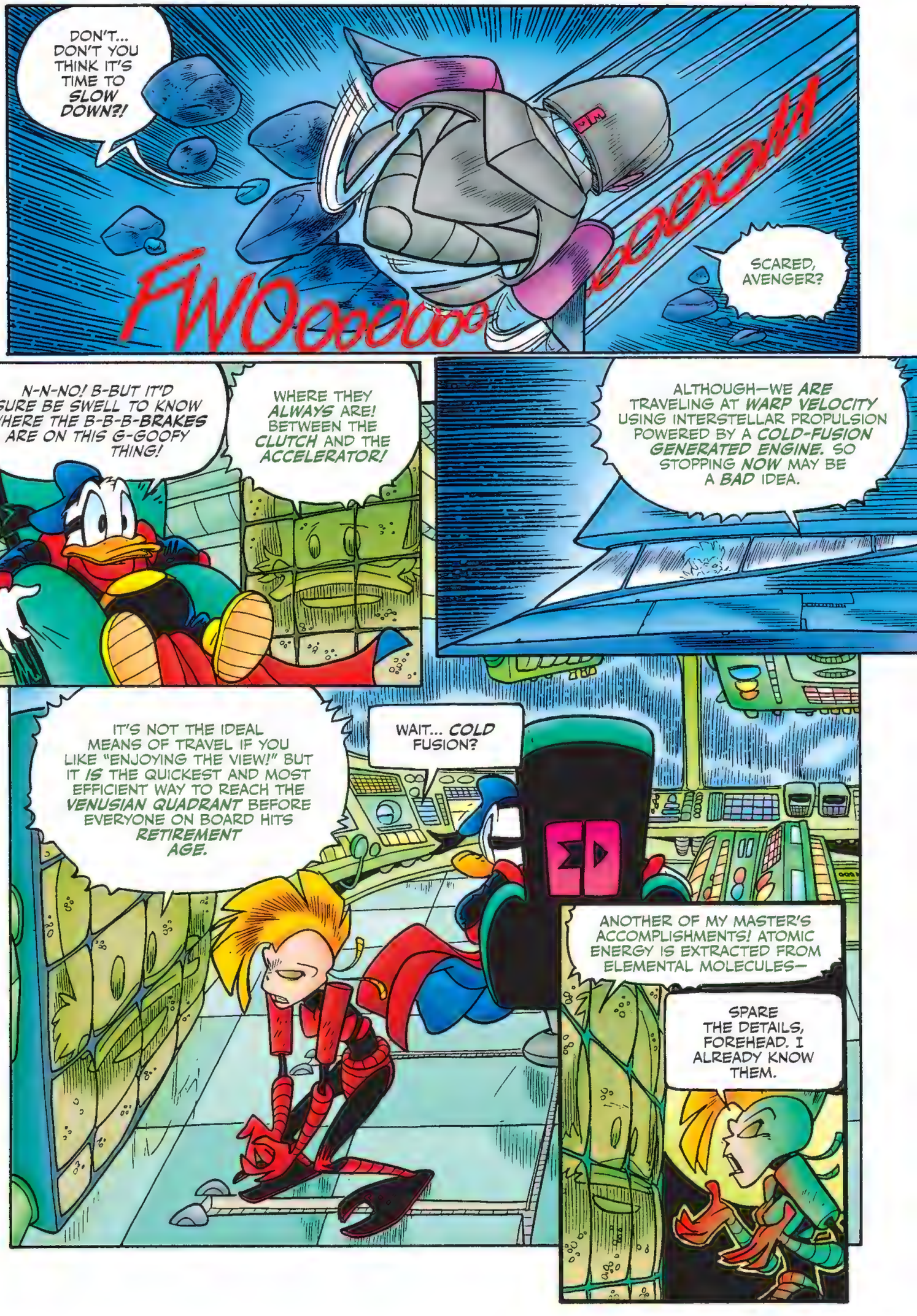
NO NEED FOR VEXATION, FRIEND. IN FACT, I'VE ALREADY THOUGHT OF *EVERY-THING...*
PERFECT! PUT ON SOME TUNES AND WAKE ME WHEN WE GET THERE!
FLUMP
THERE IS NO COUNTDOWN TO BE HEARD ABOARD ONE'S INCREDIBLE SPACESHIP...
...ONLY HIS DEEP, SERENE VOICE AND HIS DRY COMMANDING ORDER.
DETACH.
UNDER THE POWERFUL AND SURPRISINGLY SILENT PUSH OF A REACTOR, THE SMALL VESSEL IS LIFTED SKYWARD...
...TAKES OFF...


...AND—IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE— THE UNEXPLAINABLE MUTAGENIC METAL AND TECH UNDERGOES AN EXTRAORDINARY TRANSFORMATION!
FWWW

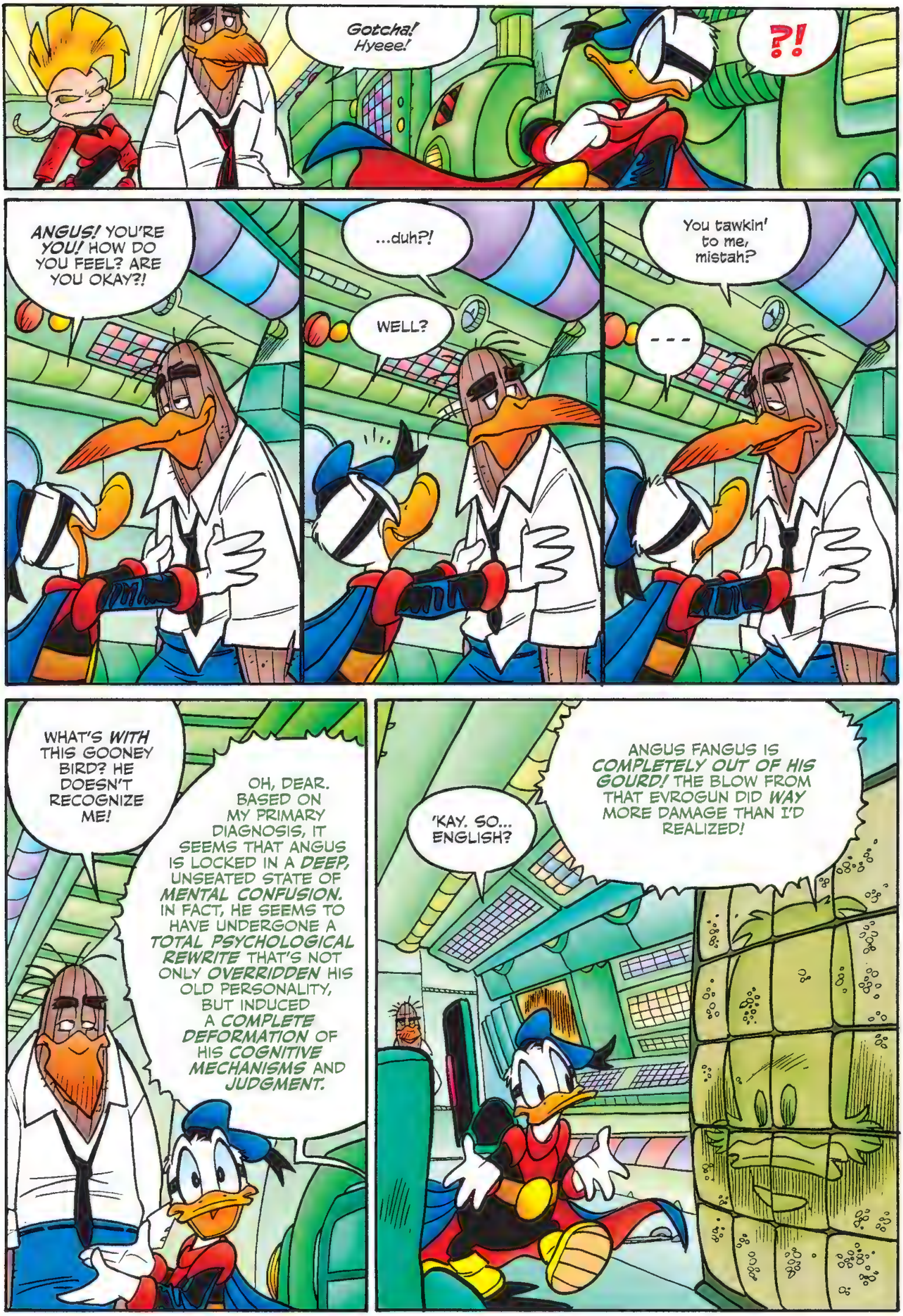
THANKS TO MY DENSITOMETRIC HOLOGRAM, DUCKLAIR TOWER WILL STILL LOOK NORMAL WHILE WE'RE GONE! WHAT DO YOU THINK, AVENGER?
Bzzzzz
FANTASTIC AS USUAL, ONE!
SHALL WE BEGIN OUR TEST?
NOT YET! WE'RE FORGETTING A FRIEND...
GOIN' MY WAY, SHINY-EYES?
SLIDE
WHO SAYS WE'RE GOIN' THE SAME WAY, DUCK?
TRUST ME! HOP IN. MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE!
WHOOOOOM
WE'RE IN FOR A LONG RIDE!

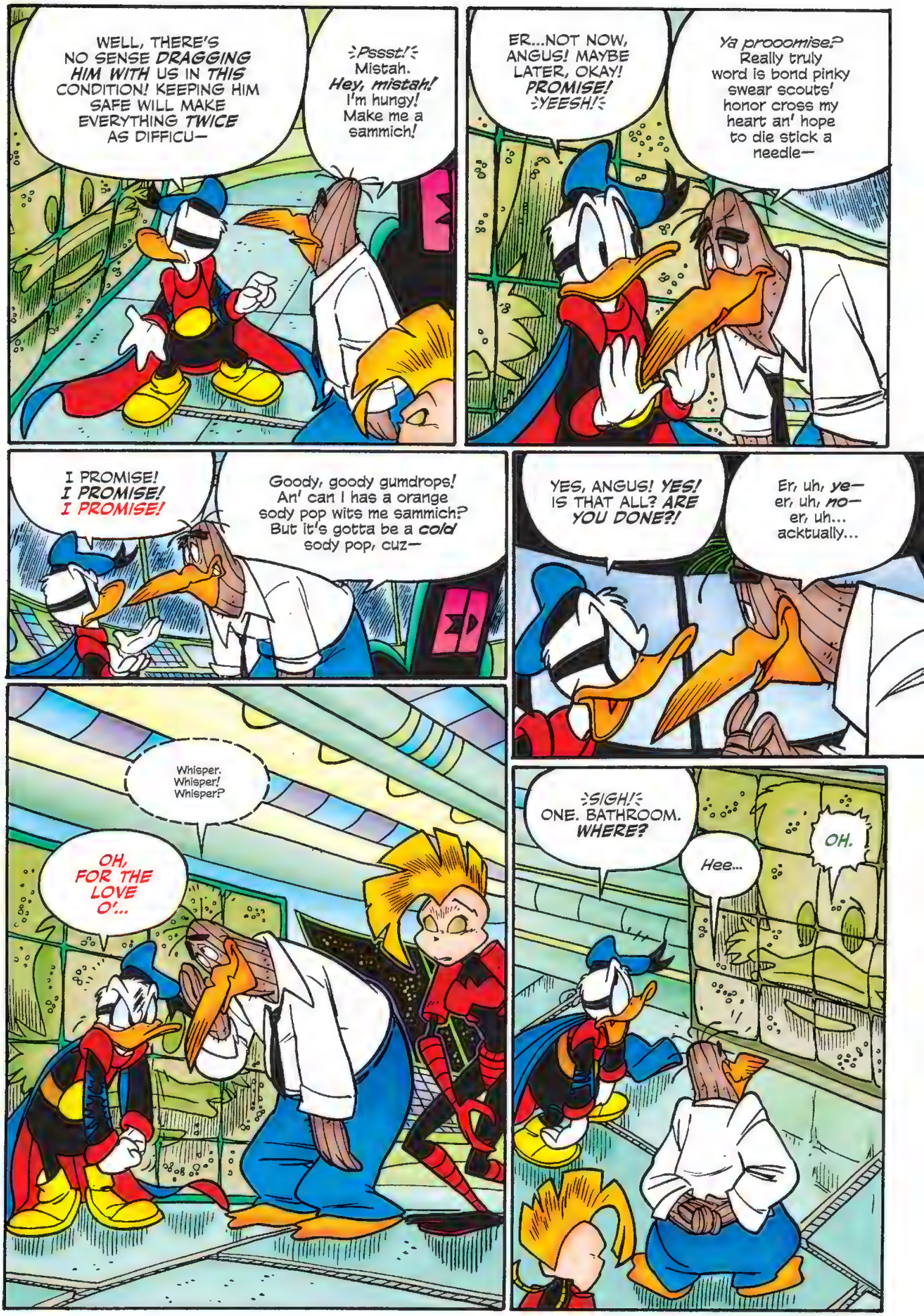

THE DARKNESS OF SPACE MAY BE EVERLASTING, BUT IN DUCKBURG DAWN BRINGS LIGHT ANEW...
WHERE'S ANGUS FANGUS?!
WHEN I ORDER AN EDITORIAL MEETING I EXPECT TO SEE EVERY ONE OF MY REPORTERS AROUND THE TABLE! AND WHEN I SAY EVERY ONE, I MEAN EVERY ONE!
I CAN'T FIND ANGUS ANYWHERE, DAN! MAYBE HE TOOK A VACATION DAY! THERE'S NO RESPONSE FROM HIS HOUSE!
WELL, I FOUND HIS NOTEBOOK! A CRUCIAL CLUE THAT SOMETHING'S ROTTEN IN DUCKBURG...
!
?
WHAT? NO WAY! ANGUS WOULD NEVER LEAVE THAT BEHIND! WHERE DID YOU FIND IT?
SHOVED INTO A CORNER DOWN IN THE TOWER'S LOBBY!
A GOOD JOURNALIST IS ALWAYS ATTENTIVE TO HIS SURROUNDINGS...
LYLA LEE, MEET THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE CHANNEL 00 NEWS TEAM—MICHAEL MARTIN MORRIGAN! YOU GOTTA ADMIT, THE MAN'S GOT PIZZAZZ!
CALL ME MIKE. AND MY GUT TELLS ME THAT ANGUS WAS KIDNAPPED... BY THE DUCK AVENGER!
WHAT?!
!

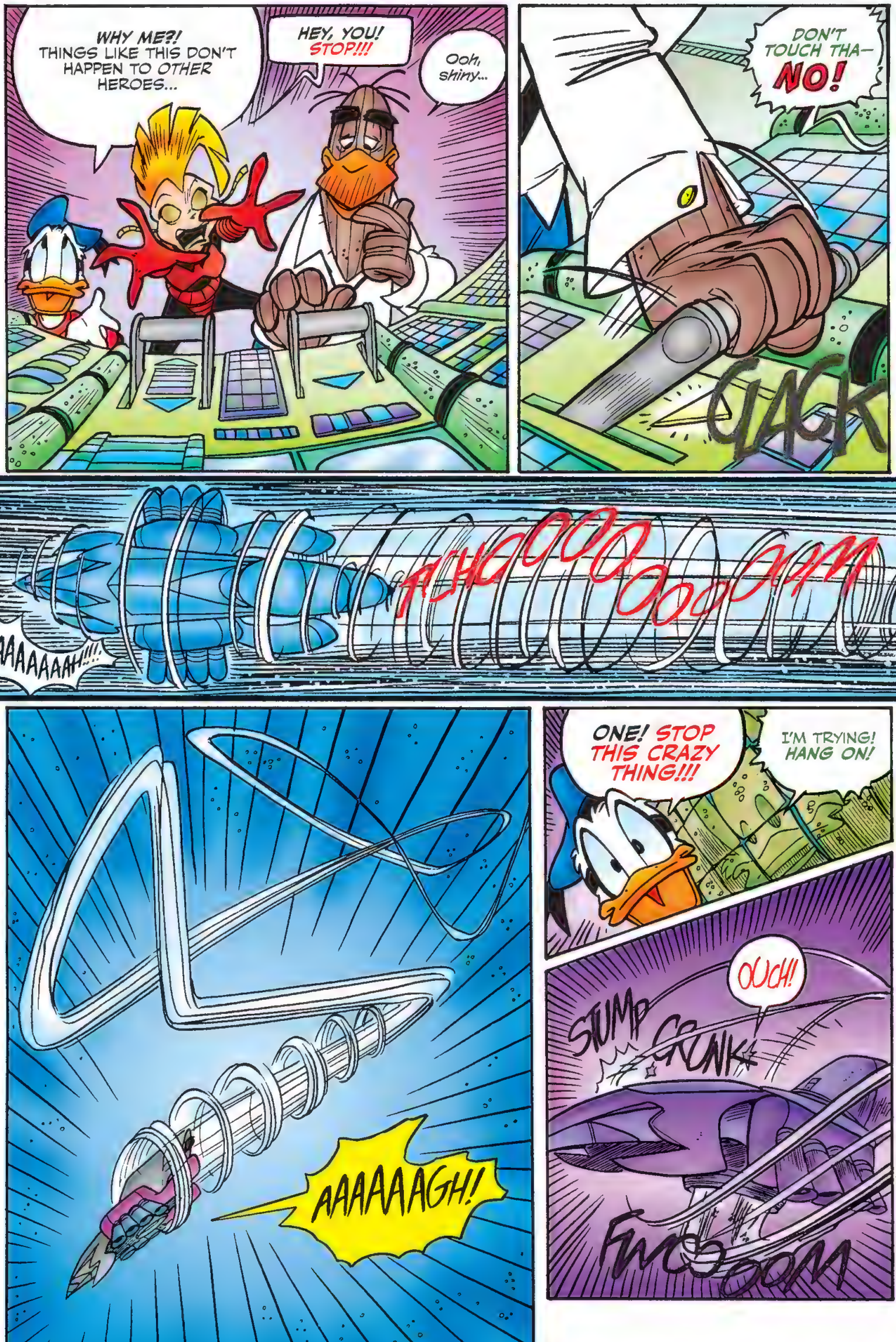

I WAS RUMMAGING THROUGH FANGUS' STUFF—PURELY BY ACCIDENT, MIND YOU—WHEN I HAPPENED TO STUMBLE ACROSS *THIS...*
HE'S A BLOWHARD *AND* A BUSYBODY.
NINETY MINUTES OF *NONSTOP LIES AND DECEIT* ABOUT OUR MYSTERIOUS *MASKED DUCK!* UGH! IT'S ENOUGH TO GET ON ANYBODY'S NERVES...
DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS, LYLA?
N-NO! NOT A THING, DAN!
WHAT HAPPENED *NEXT*—YOU CAN LEAVE TO YOUR *IMAGINATION!* THE AVENGER LOST HIS PATIENCE AN' SPIRITED ANGUS OFF INTO THE NIGHT, *RAGING* ALL THE WAY! EASY-PEASY.
TOO EASY! THE DUCK AVENGER WOULD *NEVER* DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
WELL THERE'S ONLY *ONE WAY* TO FIND OUT... I WANT *BOTH OF YOU* ON THE TRAIL OF ANGUS FANGUS, *NOW!*
SPLENDID! I SMELL THE MAKINGS OF A *SPECIAL REPORT!*
ALL I SMELL IS YOUR STUPID, RANCID *AFTERSHAVE.*
SORRY, BOYS—GOTTA BORROW YOUR *SHRIMP!* I'M CATCHIN' ME A *HOT SCOOP...* AND *HE* GETS TO RECORD *ME* REPORTING IT!
I CAN ALREADY SEE THE HEADLINES! NOT TO MENTION MY *AWARD* FOR *"REPORTER OF THE YEAR!"*
DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE MOVING TOO FAST?

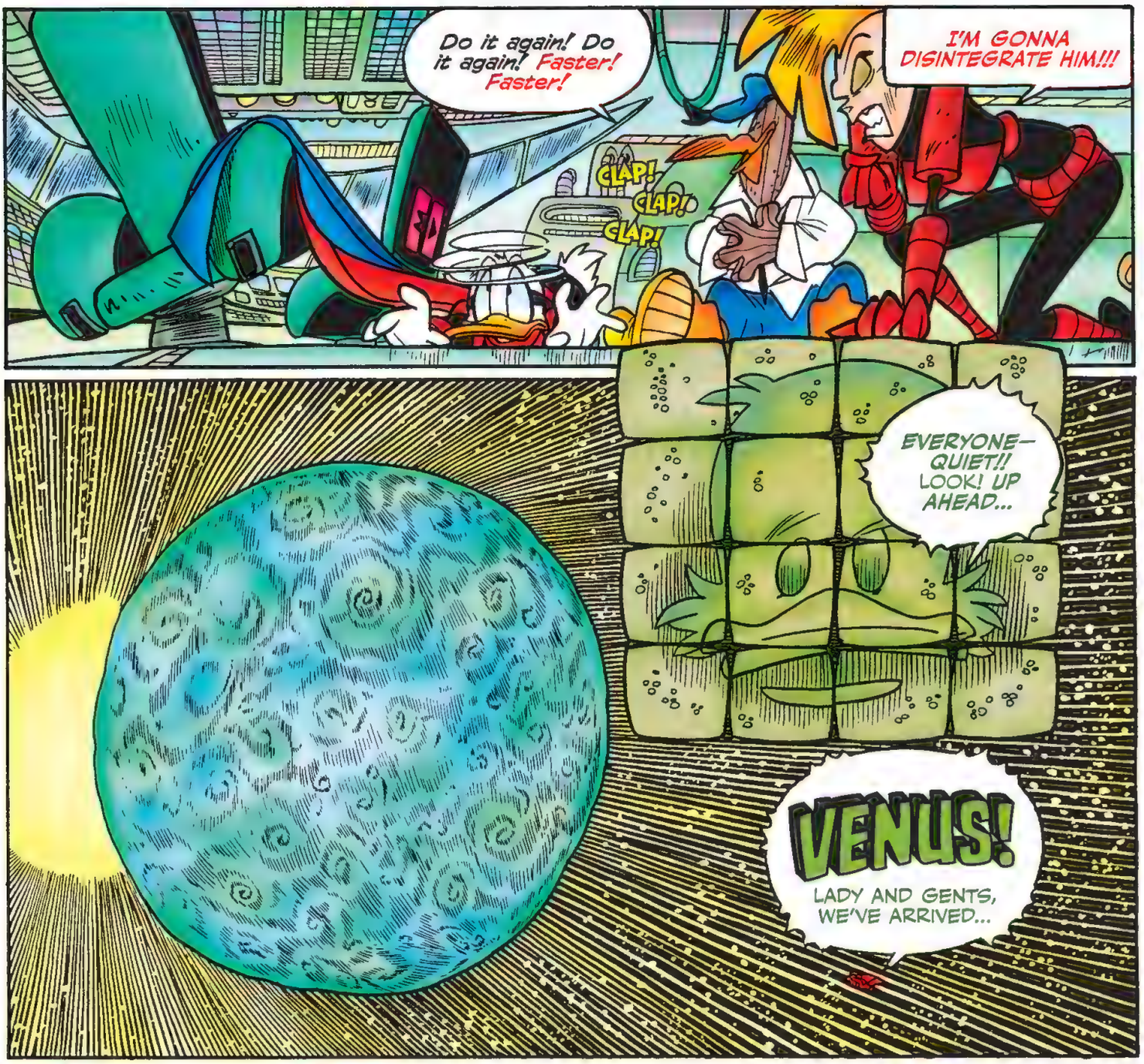

DON'T... DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME TO SLOW DOWN?!
FWOOOOOOOOOM
SCARED, AVENGER?
N-N-NO! B-BUT IT'D SURE BE SWELL TO KNOW WHERE THE B-B-B-BRAKES ARE ON THIS G-GOOFY THING!
WHERE THEY ALWAYS ARE! BETWEEN THE CLUTCH AND THE ACCELERATOR!
ALTHOUGH—WE ARE TRAVELING AT WARP VELOCITY USING INTERSTELLAR PROPULSION POWERED BY A COLD-FUSION GENERATED ENGINE. SO STOPPING NOW MAY BE A BAD IDEA.
IT'S NOT THE IDEAL MEANS OF TRAVEL IF YOU LIKE "ENJOYING THE VIEW!" BUT IT IS THE QUICKEST AND MOST EFFICIENT WAY TO REACH THE VENUSIAN QUADRANT BEFORE EVERYONE ON BOARD HITS RETIREMENT AGE.
WAIT... COLD FUSION?
ANOTHER OF MY MASTER'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS! ATOMIC ENERGY IS EXTRACTED FROM ELEMENTAL MOLECULES—
SPARE THE DETAILS, FOREHEAD. I ALREADY KNOW THEM.

UH... Y'KNOW, XADHOOM... I NEVER DID *THANK* YOU FOR YOUR TIMELY INTERVENTION EARLIER TONIGHT.
FORGET IT, BROTHER. YOU COULDN'T GET ME A BETTER THANK-YOU GIFT THAN A TRIP TO AN *ACTUAL EVRONIAN BASE!*
BY THE WAY, HOW *DID* YOU MANAGE TO DETECT THAT ALIEN PATROL? THE MILKY WAY'S *PRETTY BIG...*
NOT BIG ENOUGH FOR *ME!* I INTERCEPTED THEIR STAR RAIDER'S FREQUENCY AND FOLLOWED IT BACK TO YOUR CITY!
WHAT I WANNA KNOW IS HOW THEY FOUND *YOU?* I THOUGHT YOUR BASE WAS A *SECRET!*
IT STILL IS! THEY WERE LOOKING FOR *ANGUS,* BUT NEVER REALIZED THAT—
WHAT?! WHERE IS HE?!
HOW'D HE VANISH?! HE WAS HERE JUST A MINUTE AGO!
GAAAAK!

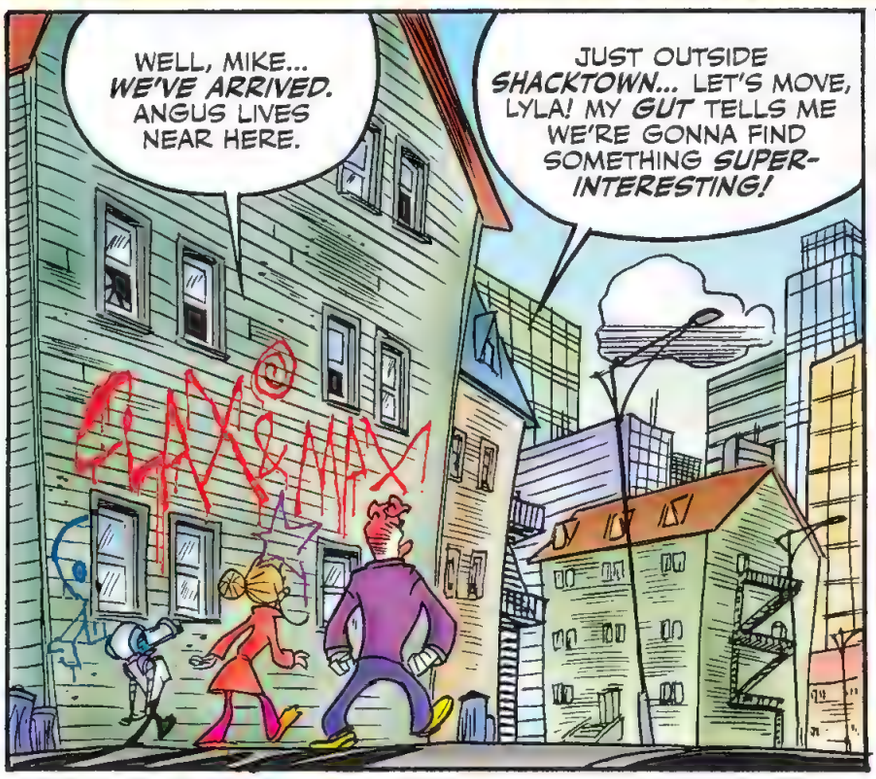

Gotcha! Hyeee!
?!
ANGUS! YOU'RE YOU! HOW DO YOU FEEL? ARE YOU OKAY?!
...duh?!
WELL?
You tawkin' to me, mistah?
- - -
WHAT'S WITH THIS GOONEY BIRD? HE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME!
OH, DEAR. BASED ON MY PRIMARY DIAGNOSIS, IT SEEMS THAT ANGUS IS LOCKED IN A DEEP, UNSEATED STATE OF MENTAL CONFUSION. IN FACT, HE SEEMS TO HAVE UNDERGONE A TOTAL PSYCHOLOGICAL REWRITE THAT'S NOT ONLY OVERRIDDEN HIS OLD PERSONALITY, BUT INDUCED A COMPLETE DEFORMATION OF HIS COGNITIVE MECHANISMS AND JUDGMENT.
'KAY. SO... ENGLISH?
ANGUS FANGUS IS COMPLETELY OUT OF HIS GOURD! THE BLOW FROM THAT EVROGUN DID WAY MORE DAMAGE THAN I'D REALIZED!

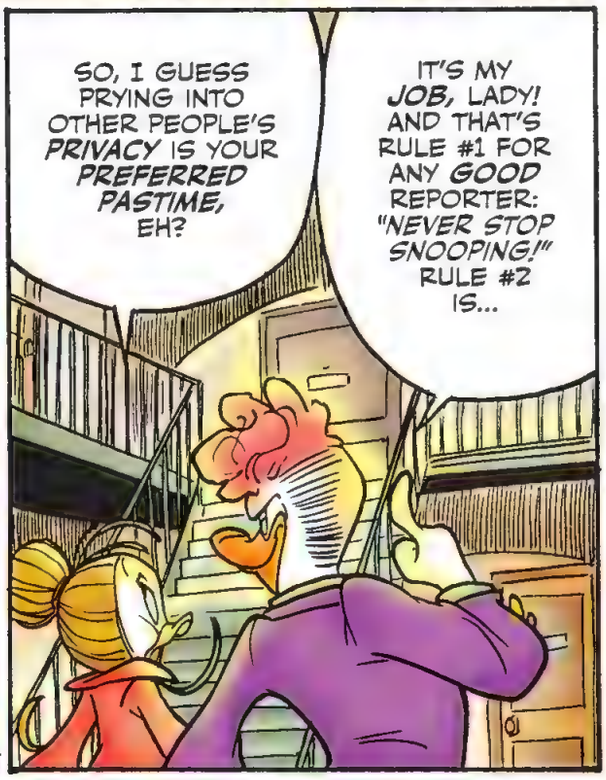

WELL, THERE'S NO SENSE DRAGGING HIM WITH US IN THIS CONDITION! KEEPING HIM SAFE WILL MAKE EVERYTHING TWICE AS DIFFICU—
:Pssst!: Mistah. Hey, mistah! I'm hungy! Make me a sammich!
ER...NOT NOW, ANGUS! MAYBE LATER, OKAY! PROMISE! :YEESH!:
Ya prooomise? Really truly word is bond pinky swear scouts' honor cross my heart an' hope to die stick a needle—
I PROMISE! I PROMISE! I PROMISE!
Goody, goody gumdrops! An' can I has a orange sody pop wits me sammich? But it's gotta be a cold sody pop, cuz—
YES, ANGUS! YES! IS THAT ALL? ARE YOU DONE?!
Er, uh, ye— er, uh, no— er, uh... acktually...
Whisper. Whisper! Whisper?
OH, FOR THE LOVE O'...
:SIGH!: ONE. BATHROOM. WHERE?
Hee...
OH.

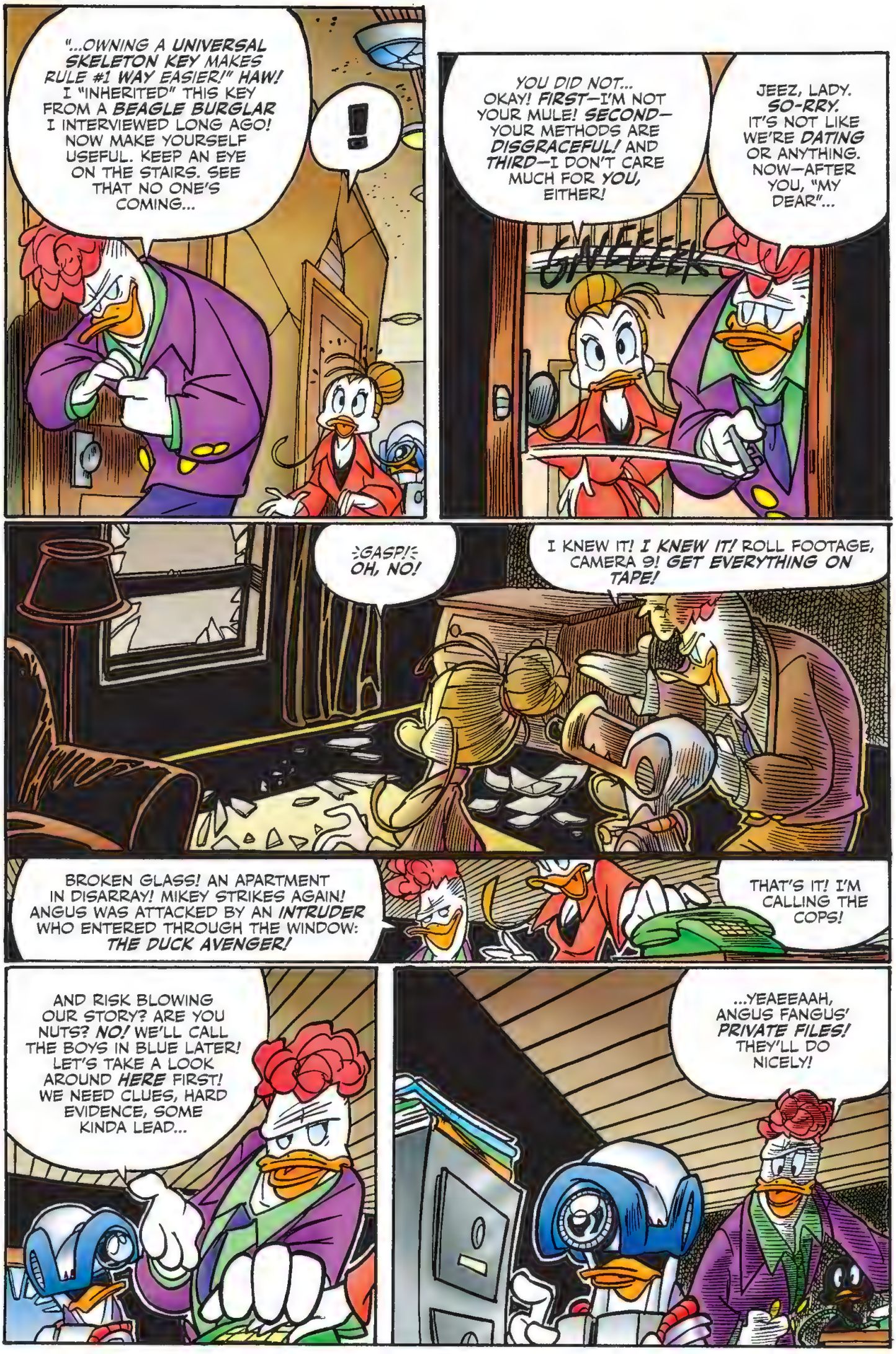

WHY ME?! THINGS LIKE THIS DON'T HAPPEN TO OTHER HEROES...
HEY, YOU! STOP!!!
Ooh, shiny...
DON'T TOUCH THA— NO!
CLACK
AAAAAAAH!!!!
FWOOOOOOOOOOM
AAAAAAGH!
ONE! STOP THIS CRAZY THING!!!
I'M TRYING! HANG ON!
OUCH!
STUMP
CRUNK
FWOOOOOM

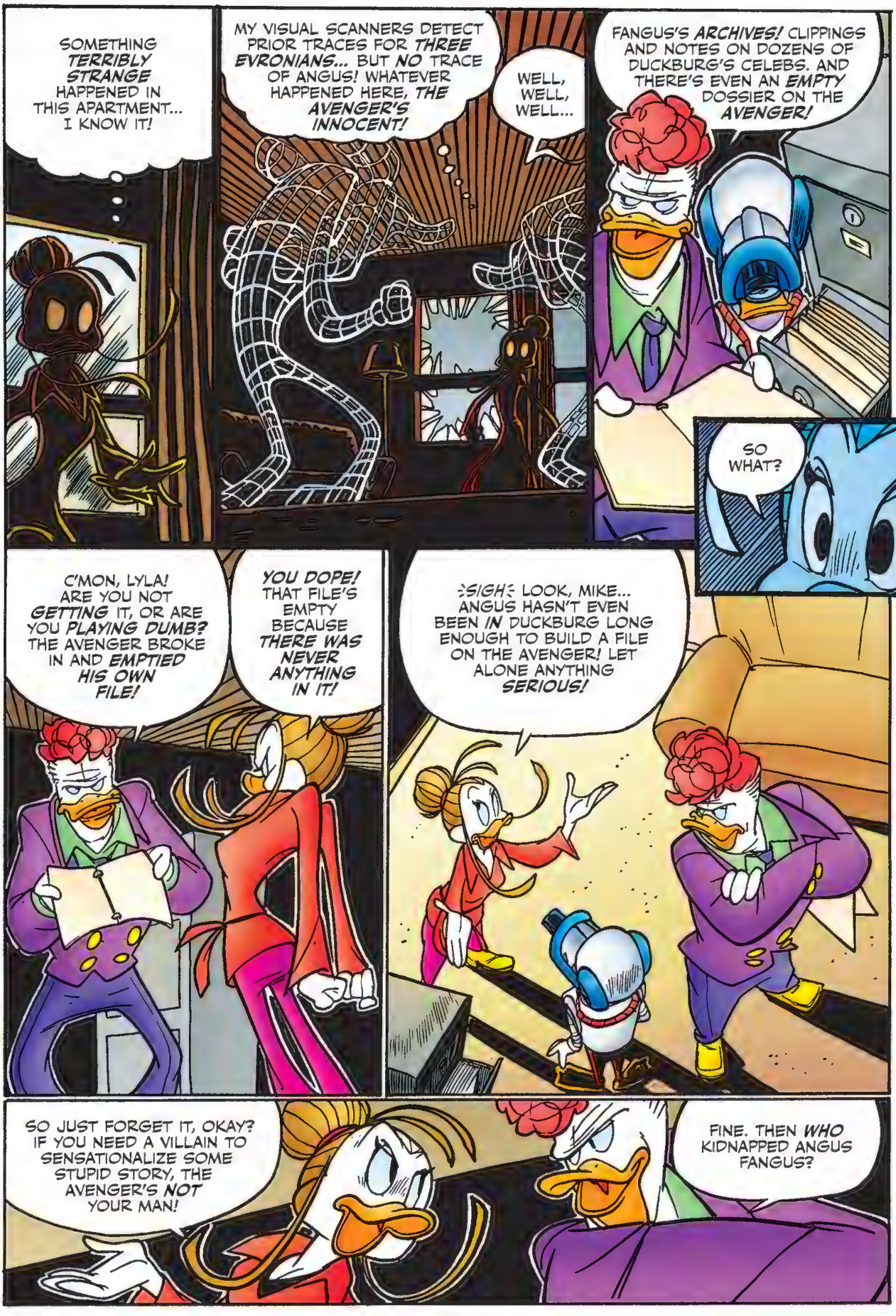

Do it again! Do it again! Faster! Faster!
CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!
I'M GONNA DISINTEGRATE HIM!!!

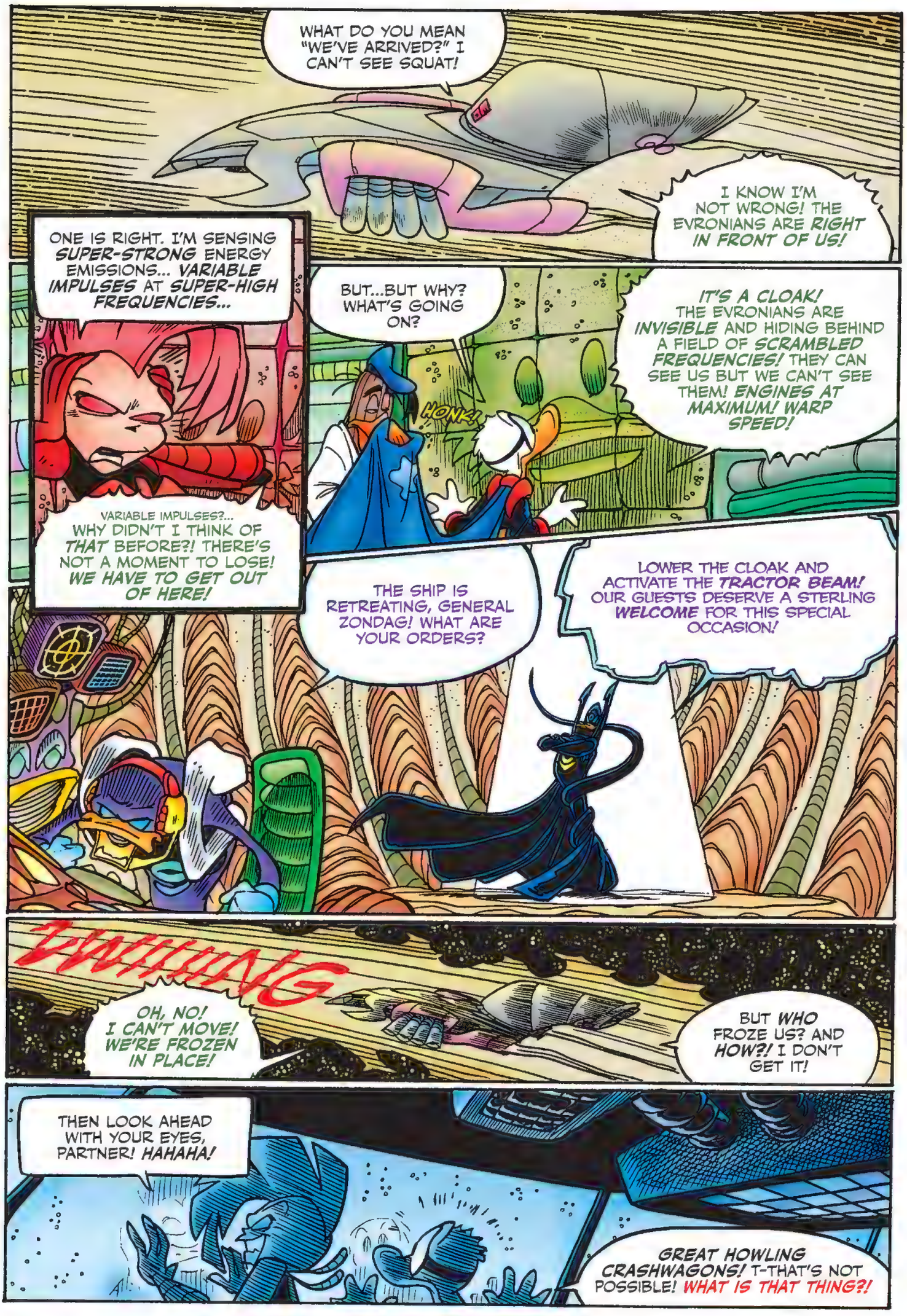
EVERYONE— QUIET!! LOOK! UP AHEAD...
VENUS!
LADY AND GENTS, WE'VE ARRIVED...


WELL, MIKE... WE'VE ARRIVED. ANGUS LIVES NEAR HERE.
JUST OUTSIDE SHACKTOWN... LET'S MOVE, LYLA! MY GUT TELLS ME WE'RE GONNA FIND SOMETHING SUPER-INTERESTING!


SO, I GUESS PRYING INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S PRIVACY IS YOUR PREFERRED PASTIME, EH?
IT'S MY JOB, LADY! AND THAT'S RULE #1 FOR ANY GOOD REPORTER: "NEVER STOP SNOOPING!" RULE #2 IS...

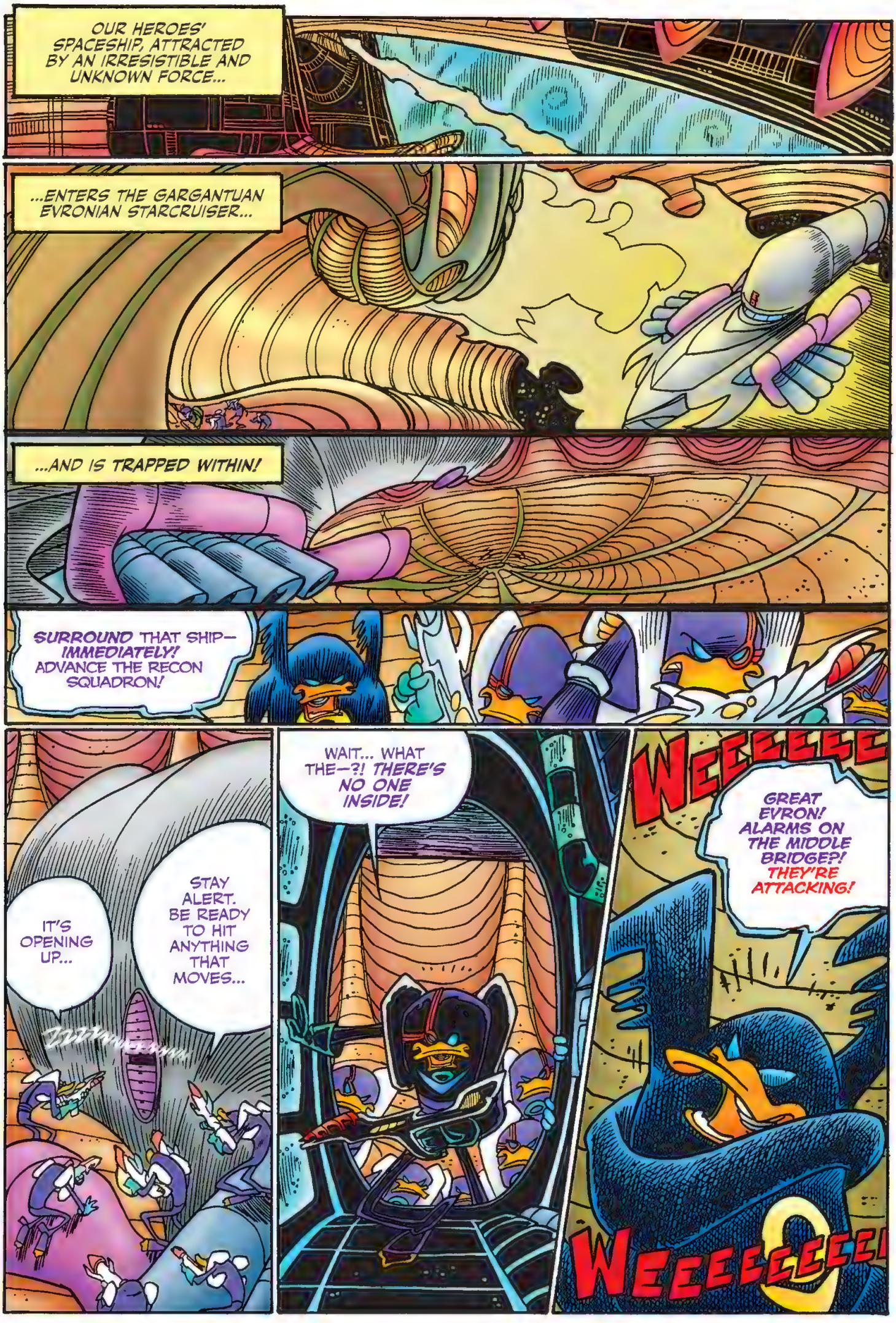

"...OWNING A UNIVERSAL SKELETON KEY MAKES RULE #1 WAY EASIER!" HAW! I "INHERITED" THIS KEY FROM A BEAGLE BURGLAR I INTERVIEWED LONG AGO! NOW MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL. KEEP AN EYE ON THE STAIRS. SEE THAT NO ONE'S COMING...
!
YOU DID NOT... OKAY! FIRST—I'M NOT YOUR MULE! SECOND—YOUR METHODS ARE DISGRACEFUL! AND THIRD—I DON'T CARE MUCH FOR YOU, EITHER!
JEEZ, LADY. SO-RRY. IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE DATING OR ANYTHING. NOW—AFTER YOU, "MY DEAR"...
GNEEEK
:GASP!: OH, NO!
I KNEW IT! I KNEW IT! ROLL FOOTAGE, CAMERA 9! GET EVERYTHING ON TAPE!
BROKEN GLASS! AN APARTMENT IN DISARRAY! MIKEY STRIKES AGAIN! ANGUS WAS ATTACKED BY AN INTRUDER WHO ENTERED THROUGH THE WINDOW: THE DUCK AVENGER!
THAT'S IT! I'M CALLING THE COPS!
AND RISK BLOWING OUR STORY? ARE YOU NUTS? NO! WE'LL CALL THE BOYS IN BLUE LATER! LET'S TAKE A LOOK AROUND HERE FIRST! WE NEED CLUES, HARD EVIDENCE, SOME KINDA LEAD...
...YEAEEAAH, ANGUS FANGUS' PRIVATE FILES! THEY'LL DO NICELY!

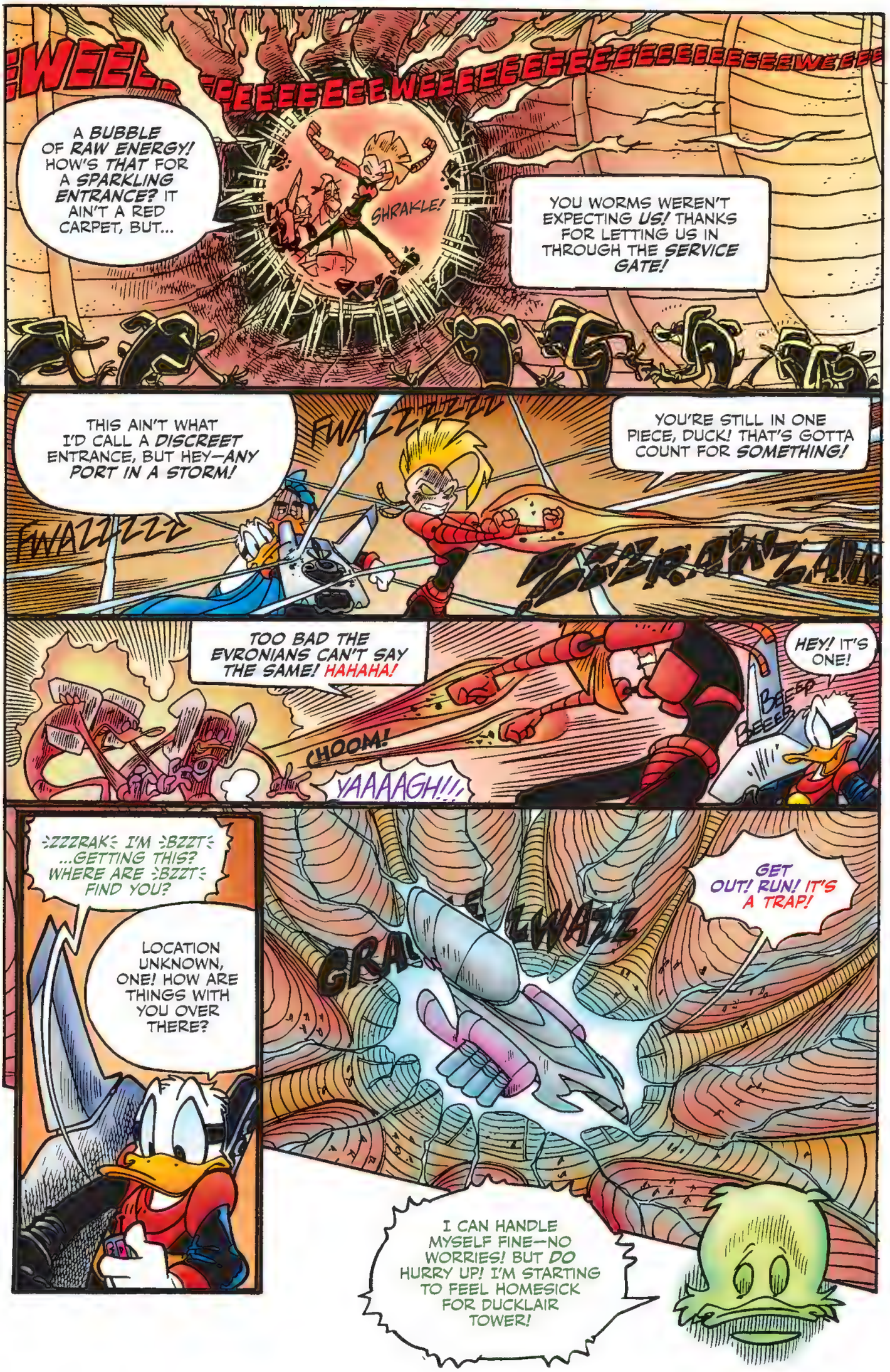

SOMETHING *TERRIBLY STRANGE* HAPPENED IN THIS APARTMENT... I KNOW IT!
MY VISUAL SCANNERS DETECT PRIOR TRACES FOR *THREE EVRONIANS*... BUT *NO* TRACE OF ANGUS! WHATEVER HAPPENED HERE, *THE AVENGER'S INNOCENT!*
WELL, WELL, WELL...
FANGUS'S *ARCHIVES!* CLIPPINGS AND NOTES ON DOZENS OF DUCKBURG'S CELEBS. AND THERE'S EVEN AN *EMPTY* DOSSIER ON THE *AVENGER!*
SO WHAT?
C'MON, LYLA! ARE YOU NOT *GETTING* IT, OR ARE YOU *PLAYING DUMB?* THE AVENGER BROKE IN AND *EMPTIED HIS OWN FILE!*
YOU DOPE! THAT FILE'S EMPTY BECAUSE *THERE WAS NEVER ANYTHING IN IT!*
:*SIGH*: LOOK, MIKE... ANGUS HASN'T EVEN BEEN *IN* DUCKBURG LONG ENOUGH TO BUILD A FILE ON THE AVENGER! LET ALONE ANYTHING *SERIOUS!*
SO JUST FORGET IT, OKAY? IF YOU NEED A VILLAIN TO SENSATIONALIZE SOME STUPID STORY, THE AVENGER'S *NOT* YOUR MAN!
FINE. THEN *WHO* KIDNAPPED ANGUS FANGUS?


WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WE'VE ARRIVED?" I CAN'T SEE SQUAT!
I KNOW I'M NOT WRONG! THE EVRONIANS ARE *RIGHT IN FRONT OF US!*
ONE IS RIGHT. I'M SENSING *SUPER-STRONG* ENERGY EMISSIONS... *VARIABLE IMPULSES* AT *SUPER-HIGH FREQUENCIES...*
BUT...BUT WHY? WHAT'S GOING ON?
HONK!
IT'S A CLOAK! THE EVRONIANS ARE *INVISIBLE* AND HIDING BEHIND A FIELD OF *SCRAMBLED FREQUENCIES!* THEY CAN SEE US BUT WE CAN'T SEE THEM! *ENGINES AT MAXIMUM! WARP SPEED!*
VARIABLE IMPULSES?... WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF *THAT* BEFORE?! THERE'S NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE! *WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!*
THE SHIP IS RETREATING, GENERAL ZONDAG! WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS?
LOWER THE CLOAK AND ACTIVATE THE *TRACTOR BEAM!* OUR GUESTS DESERVE A STERLING *WELCOME* FOR THIS SPECIAL OCCASION!
OH, NO! I CAN'T MOVE! WE'RE FROZEN IN PLACE!
BUT *WHO* FROZE US? AND *HOW?!* I DON'T GET IT!
THEN LOOK AHEAD WITH YOUR EYES, PARTNER! *HAHAHA!*
GREAT HOWLING CRASHWAGONS! T-THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE! *WHAT IS THAT THING?!*

AN EVRONIAN STARCRUISER, AVENGER! AND IT'S GOT US IN ITS SIGHTS!

!


OUR HEROES' SPACESHIP, ATTRACTED BY AN IRRESISTIBLE AND UNKNOWN FORCE...
...ENTERS THE GARGANTUAN EVRONIAN STARCRUISER...
...AND IS TRAPPED WITHIN!
SURROUND THAT SHIP— IMMEDIATELY! ADVANCE THE RECON SQUADRON!
IT'S OPENING UP...
STAY ALERT. BE READY TO HIT ANYTHING THAT MOVES...
WAIT... WHAT THE—?! THERE'S NO ONE INSIDE!
GREAT EVRON! ALARMS ON THE MIDDLE BRIDGE?! THEY'RE ATTACKING!
WEEEEEE
WEEEEEEEEE!


WEEE
EEEE

THE INDICATOR ON MY X-TRANSFORMER SAYS ONE IS AT LEAST THREE FLOORS BELOW US! THIS PLACE IS ABSOLUTELY ENORMO— :GACK!: HEY!!!
Keewee-heehee!
STOMP!
NO SURPRISE THERE! WE'RE ABOARD THE LARGEST BATTLESHIP IN THIS QUADRANT OF THE UNIVERSE!
ENOUGH, ANGUS!
YOINK
THIS IS GONNA BE LIKE LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK.
HOW'S THAT A PROBLEM? JUST BURN THE HAYSTACK!
IF IT WERE ONLY THAT SIMPLE! WHAT WE NEED IS SOMEONE OR SOMETHING THAT CAN RETURN ANGUS'S BRAIN ENERGIES TO HIM!
THE EVRONIANS RETAIN THEIR VICTIMS' ESSENCES INSIDE THESE— :GAAAK!:
STOMP!
SLIP
DADBLAST IT, ANGUS! I SAID STOP IT WITH YOUR STUPID— HELLO!
OOPS!
!?!
YOINK

EVRONIANS!
THAT, OR AN UNREASONABLE FACSIMILE! STAY WHERE YOU ARE! WE DON'T WANNA HURT YOU!
SPEAK FOR YOURSELF!
GET THEM!
I COULDN'T ASK FOR A BETTER GIFT!
SPEAK FOR YOURSELF!
THEY'RE STILL FIGHTING IN THE LOWER SECTORS, GENERAL!
WAIT! THAT... THAT'S OUR TARGET! HOW DID ANGUS FANGUS GET ABOARD OUR CRUISER?!
I DON'T GIVE A WHIT ABOUT THE EARTH DUCK OR THAT HYPER-DESTRUCTIVE WOMAN... BUT I WANT FANGUS ALIVE!
DON'T YOU DARE LET HIM GET AWAY! COMMANDERS! I WANT EVERY LAST EVRONIAN WARRIOR ON THE MIDDLE BRIDGE, NOW! GET THEM!!
TOO MANY! THEY'RE OVERWHELMING US! WHAT'LL WE DO?!
SIMPLE! WE GET AWAY FROM IT ALL!

SORRY, BOYS! TODAY'S LESSON IN THRASHING HAS BEEN POSTPONED!
ANGUS! GET BACK H—
FSSSSSHRAK!
—EEEE-YYYEEK!
You tawkin' ta me, mistah?
Hullo!
MEANWHILE... A FEW HUNDRED THOUSAND MILES AWAY IN DUCKBURG'S SHACKTOWN DISTRICT!
IF THE DUCK AVENGER *DIDN'T* KIDNAP ANGUS, THEN WE NEED TO ASK OURSELVES... *WHO ELSE* WOULD HAVE GOOD REASON TO BE RID OF HIM? *THAT'S* THE MILLION-DOLLAR QUESTION!
EVER SINCE HE IMMIGRATED TO DUCKBURG, ANGUS HAS DONE NOTHING BUT STEP ON PEOPLE'S TOES! BUT NOT ENOUGH FOR ANYONE TO WANT HIM PERMANENTLY *GONE.* ...*HEY!* LOOK AT THIS...
CICERO BLUNT, THE *CEMENT KING* OF DUCKBURG. I REMEMBER HIM! ANGUS EXPOSED A SMALL *SCANDAL* OF HIS—AND AS A RESULT, BLUNT *LOST* A *CONTRACT* WORTH *TENS OF MILLIONS.*

AND THEN THERE'S MADAME PETULA BEAKLEY, THE MASTERMIND BEHIND CALISOTA'S "DIET PYRAMID" SCHEME. BUT SHE GOT DETHRONED WHEN ANGUS EXPOSED HER ENTIRE SCAM TO THE PUBLI—OH. NEVER MIND THAT!
ANOTHER SCANDAL?
SORT OF. SHE WAS THE SCANDAL. ANGUS CAUGHT HER USING ILLEGALLY EARNED CASH TO LIVE THE HIGH LIFE—AT THE EXPENSE OF CALISOTA'S GULLIBLE CITIZENRY!
...AND THIS?
IT SEEMS ANGUS HAD AN APPOINTMENT.
LET ME SEE...
:HM!: A MEETING AT THE PORT... FOR TONIGHT!
CORMORANT, PIER 9 CAPTAIN TARANTULA
WELL... THAT'S A CLUE.
GOOD THING I FOUND IT! WE'RE OFF TO PIER 9 TO FIND THE CORMORANT! I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS MYSTERY IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!
MEANWHILE, LET'S LOOK IN ON OUR OTHER HEROES... WHO'VE ALREADY HIT THEIR BOTTOMS!
:OUCH!: YOU COULDA WARNED ME, Y'KNOW? WHERE THE HECK ARE WE?
DON'T ASK ME! MAYBE A WAREHOUSE OR A HANGAR...

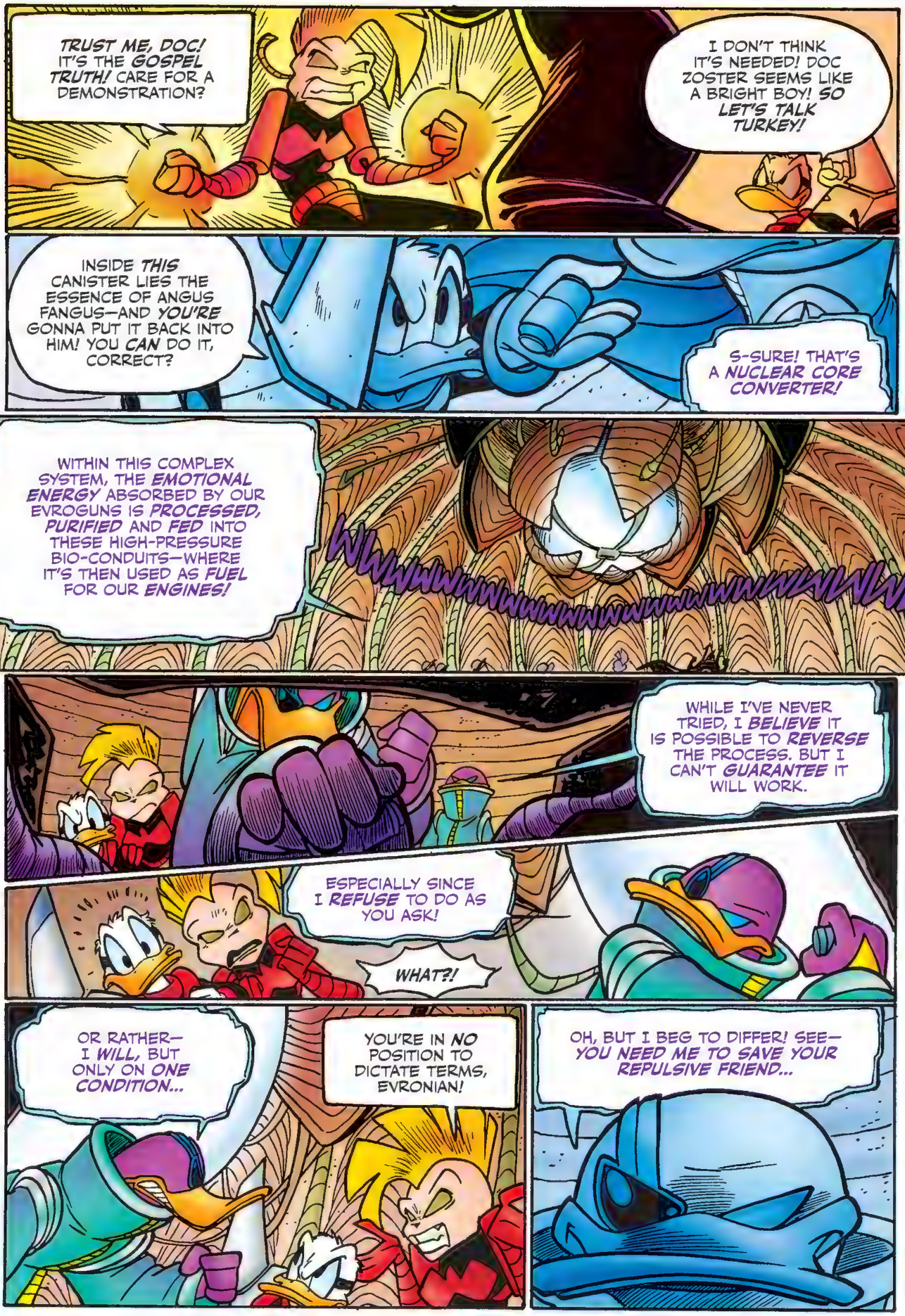
WAMP WAMP
WAMP WAMP
IF ONLY WE HAD SOME LIGHT...
FREEZE-FLAMES!
EVRONIANS AREN'T THE ONLY DANGER ON BOARD.
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE ENDED UP IN THE TOURISTS' SECTION OF THE SHIP, JUDGING BY THESE UNWILLING PASSENGERS...
XADHOOM! BEHIND YOU!
WHA—?
N-NO! THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! NO!! NO!!!
HOLD YOUR HORSES!

A BLAST FROM MY BRADIONIC PARALYZER OUGHTTA SETTLE THEIR HASH! BUT ARE YOU OKAY THERE WITH WHATEVER... THAT IS?
THIS... THIS FREEZEFLAME...
SCROOCH!
IT'S A XERBIAN! JUST LIKE ME!
LET HIM GO, XADHOOM! HE'S A FREEZEFLAME NOW! HE'S GOT NO SOUL AND NO WILL... MEANING HE'S ALLIED ONLY TO THE EVRONIANS!
NO!
THIS... THIS IS THE FINAL FATE THOSE HIDEOUS SPACE VAMPIRES FORCED ONTO MY PEOPLE AFTER DEMOLISHING OUR PLANET?
THE XERBIANS MAY STILL BE ALIVE... BUT THIS ISN'T LIVING! THEY'D BE BETTER OFF— >:AARGH!:< ANYTHING WOULD BE BETTER THAN THIS! CURSE THOSE EVRONIANS!!!
ROAR
...HEY. FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH... I'M SORRY. IT'S TOO LATE FOR XERBA NOW. BUT THERE'S SOMEONE WHO WE CAN STILL SAVE...

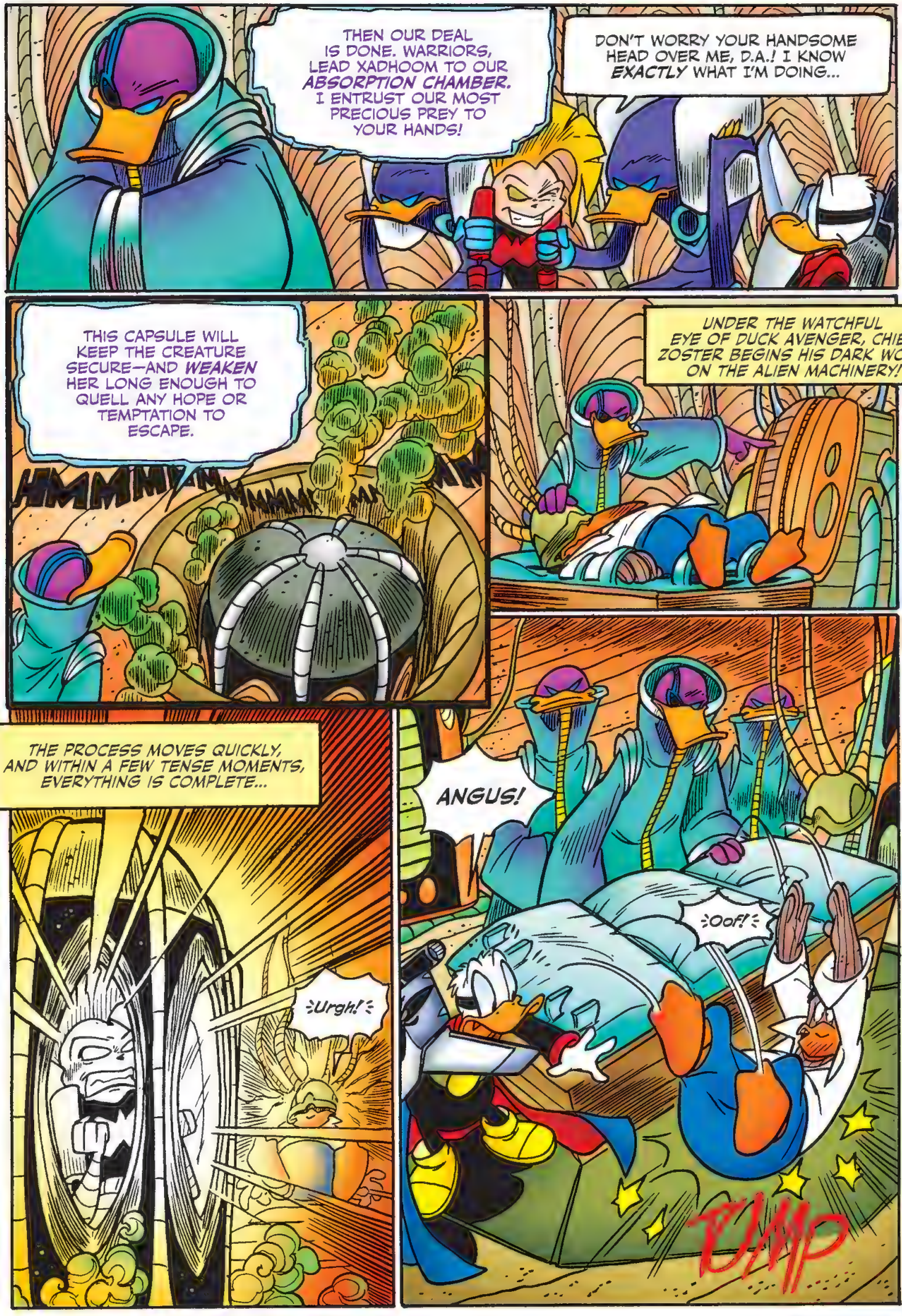
...ANGUS FANGUS.
You tawkin' ta me, mistah?
WELCOME TO THE SCIENCE SECTOR OF MY HUMBLE STAR CRUISER, WRETCHED WORM. GETTING YOU HERE WAS NO EASY FEAT.
YOU MUST BE A VERY BUSY MAN. BUT THAT'S OKAY. YOU SEE, WE'VE TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF CANCELLING ALL YOUR APPOINTMENTS... FOREVER. HAHAHA!
IS THE RESEARCH TEAM HERE?
YES, LORD ZONDAG!
MIGHT AND POWER!
CHIEF PHYSICIAN ZOSTER HAS ARRIVED!

YESSS... HERE IS OUR PRECIOUS SPECIMEN. THE EVRONIAN EMPIRE IS IN DRASTIC NEED OF YOU, AND I BET YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY...
:Yaaawn!:
Hey! My hat!
WE NEED YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE A LIVING, CONCENTRATED BALL OF MALICE, HATRED, RESENTMENT, ENVY, HOSTILITY, LOATHING AND ACRIMONIOUS RANCOR...
YOU ARE NEGATIVE ENERGY AT ITS PUREST! UNUSABLE... FOR NOW. BUT IF OUR EXPERIMENTS YIELD THE INTENDED RESULTS, NEW HORIZONS WILL UNFOLD FOR OUR CIVILIZATION!
CLACK
VRRRRMMMM
YOU WILL BE OUR FIRST GUINEA PIG— A TRUE HONOR!—AND THE CATALYST IN A LONG LINE OF HORRIFIED UNWILLING TEST SUBJECTS! GOOD THING FOR US, ZONDAG...
...PLANET EARTH IS FILLED WITH MORE NEGATIVE PEOPLE JUST LIKE FANGUS! A VERITABLE CORNUCOPIA...
:URGH!:
:YAAAGH!:

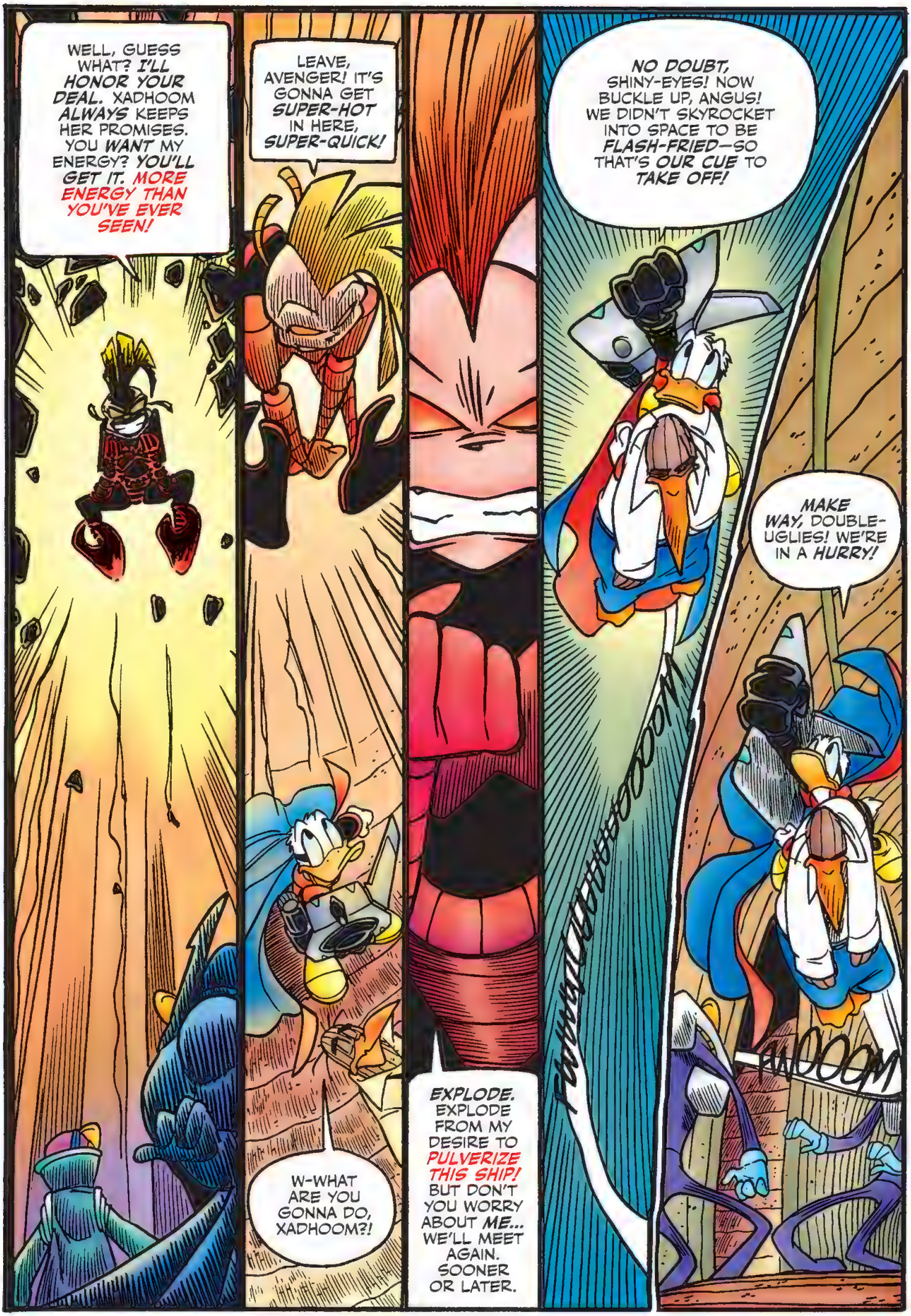
EVEN EARTH'S WORST CRANKS OUTSHINE YOU EVRONIANS AT YOUR BEST!
END THEM.
DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH, GENERAL! YOUR MONSTERS ALREADY TRIED THAT.
HOW—HOW DID YOU GET HERE?!
ANGUS GIVES OFF A PERSONAL ENERGY SIGNATURE! TRAILING IT WASN'T HARD AT ALL... THANKS TO MY LADY FRIEND!
SHRAK!
SHE'S PRACTICALLY MADE OF PURE ENERGY! SEE FOR YOURSELVES IF YOU WANT! BUT DON'T MAKE HER ANGRY—YOU WOULDN'T LIKE HER WHEN SHE'S ANGRY!
SWEET EVRON! IF THAT'S TRUE...


TRUST ME, DOC! IT'S THE GOSPEL TRUTH! CARE FOR A DEMONSTRATION?
I DON'T THINK IT'S NEEDED! DOC ZOSTER SEEMS LIKE A BRIGHT BOY! SO LET'S TALK TURKEY!
INSIDE THIS CANISTER LIES THE ESSENCE OF ANGUS FANGUS—AND YOU'RE GONNA PUT IT BACK INTO HIM! YOU CAN DO IT, CORRECT?
S-SURE! THAT'S A NUCLEAR CORE CONVERTER!
WITHIN THIS COMPLEX SYSTEM, THE EMOTIONAL ENERGY ABSORBED BY OUR EVROGUNS IS PROCESSED, PURIFIED AND FED INTO THESE HIGH-PRESSURE BIO-CONDUITS—WHERE IT'S THEN USED AS FUEL FOR OUR ENGINES!
WWWW

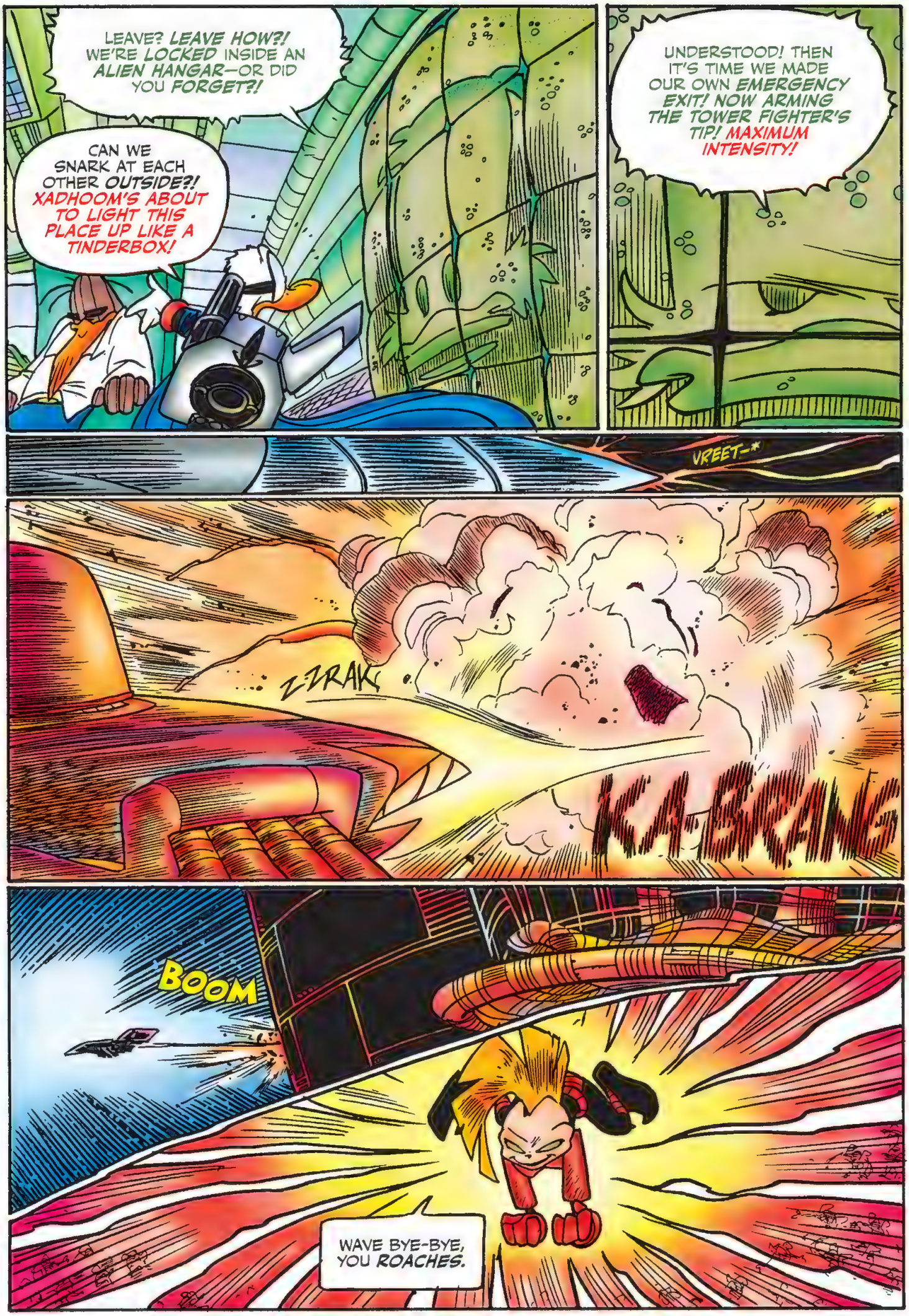
YOU'LL GET WHAT YOU WANT. ANGUS FANGUS WILL RETURN TO HIS GLORIOUSLY LOATHSOME SELF. BUT IN EXCHANGE, I WANT SOMETHING ELSE...
...HER!
XADHOOM!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS, ZOSTER?! THIS WASN'T THE PLAN! OUR ORDERS—
SILENCE, ZONDAG! YOU MAY COMMAND THE MILITARY, BUT I COMMAND THE SCIENCE SECTOR...
...AND I SAY THAT THIS XADHOOM CREATURE IS EXACTLY WHAT I WANT! INFINITELY MORE POWERFUL THAN A MEASLY EARTHLING... SHE'S A LIVING BEING COMPOSED OF PURE ENERGY!
WE WILL DISCOVER HER SECRETS—AND THE PERPETUAL GLORY OF PLANET EVRON WILL SHINE RESPLENDENTLY FOR US, AND US ALONE...
WELL?
I... I... YES, IF IT WILL SAVE ANGUS...
XADHOOM... NO! YOU CAN'T!

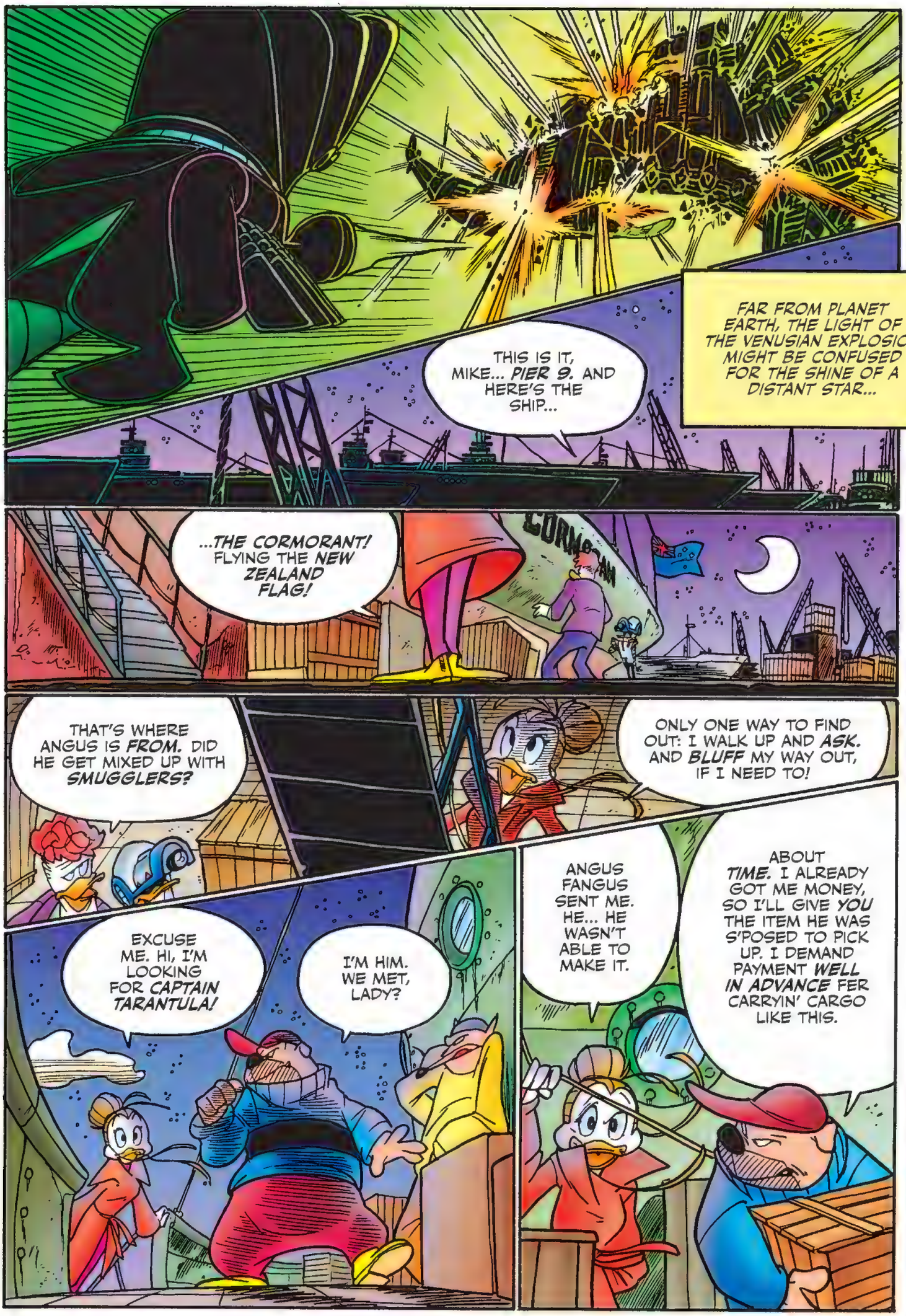

THEN OUR DEAL IS DONE. WARRIORS, LEAD XADHOOM TO OUR ABSORPTION CHAMBER. I ENTRUST OUR MOST PRECIOUS PREY TO YOUR HANDS!
DON'T WORRY YOUR HANDSOME HEAD OVER ME, D.A.! I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I'M DOING...
THIS CAPSULE WILL KEEP THE CREATURE SECURE—AND WEAKEN HER LONG ENOUGH TO QUELL ANY HOPE OR TEMPTATION TO ESCAPE.
HMMMMMMMMMM
UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYE OF DUCK AVENGER, CHIEF ZOSTER BEGINS HIS DARK WORK ON THE ALIEN MACHINERY!
THE PROCESS MOVES QUICKLY, AND WITHIN A FEW TENSE MOMENTS, EVERYTHING IS COMPLETE...
Urgh!
ANGUS!
Oof!
THUMP

SPLENDID... IT WORKED. NO WORRIES, AVENGER. FANGUS *WILL* RECOVER. IN JUST A *FEW HOURS' TIME* THE DETESTABLE BUG WILL BE AS GOOD AS NEW.
BETTER THAN THE ALTERNATIVE...
GOOD! AND NOW... *SEIZE THEM!!!*
HEY! THAT WASN'T PART OF THE DEAL!
DEAL? NO ONE *EVER* SAID WE'D GRANT YOU *FREEDOM.* AT LEAST... *I DIDN'T.* DID *YOU* AGREE TO THIS, CHIEF PHYSICIAN ZOSTER?
HEAVEN FORBID!
G-GREAT EVR-RON! W-WHAT'S H-H-HAPPENING?!
I-I T-THINK I-I K-KNOW!
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT, YOU FILTHY LIARS!
NO! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE! NO ONE CAN ESCAPE THAT CAPSULE!
THIS WAS NOT PART OF THE DEAL!
HAHA HA!
:SNARL!: I SHOULD KEEP MY WORD TO THOSE WHO'VE MADE *DECEPTION AND BETRAYAL* THEIR *GOLDEN RULE?!*


WELL, GUESS WHAT? I'LL HONOR YOUR DEAL. XADHOOM ALWAYS KEEPS HER PROMISES. YOU WANT MY ENERGY? YOU'LL GET IT. MORE ENERGY THAN YOU'VE EVER SEEN!
LEAVE, AVENGER! IT'S GONNA GET SUPER-HOT IN HERE, SUPER-QUICK!
W-WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO, XADHOOM?!
EXPLODE. EXPLODE FROM MY DESIRE TO PULVERIZE THIS SHIP! BUT DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT ME... WE'LL MEET AGAIN. SOONER OR LATER.
NO DOUBT, SHINY-EYES! NOW BUCKLE UP, ANGUS! WE DIDN'T SKYROCKET INTO SPACE TO BE FLASH-FRIED—SO THAT'S OUR CUE TO TAKE OFF!
FOOO

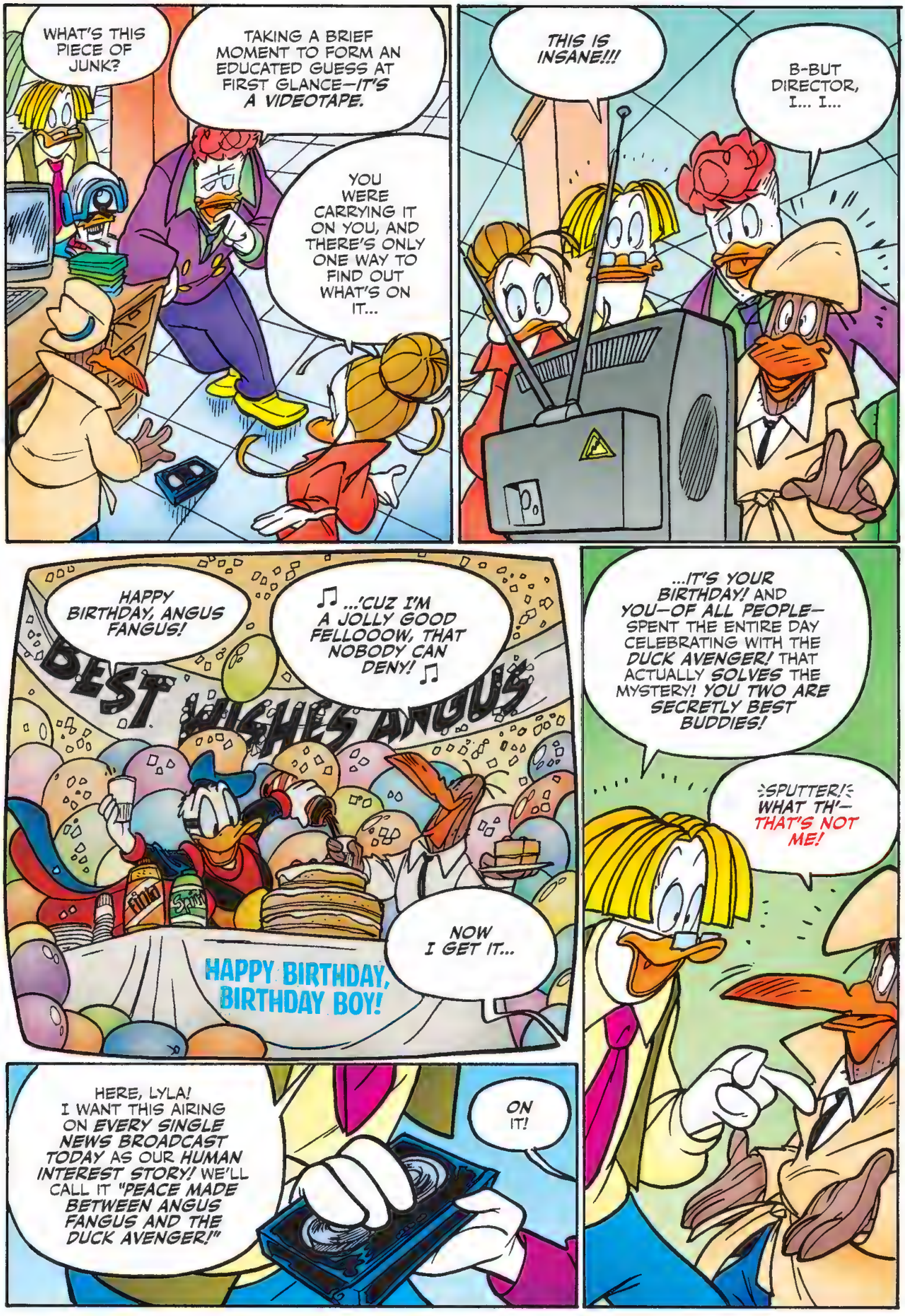
START YOUR ENGINES, ONE! WE'RE GOING HOME!
ON IT, HERO!
SORRY, BOYS! GOTTA GO NOW!
AVENGER! WHAT HAPPENED?!
TELL YOU LATER! EITHER WE LEAVE NOW, OR RISK GETTING THE WORLD'S WORST HOTFOOT!

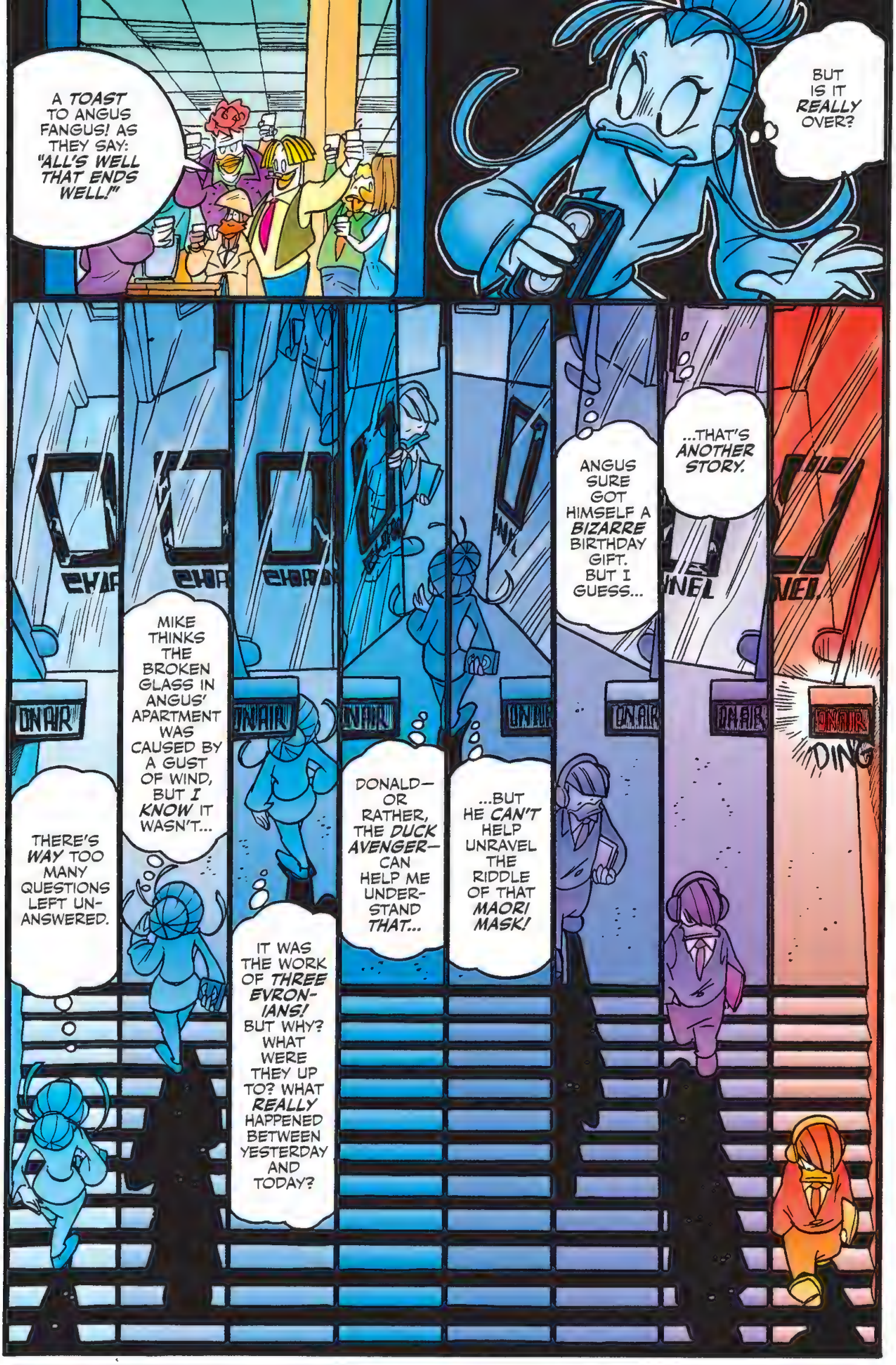

LEAVE? LEAVE HOW?! WE'RE LOCKED INSIDE AN ALIEN HANGAR—OR DID YOU FORGET?!
CAN WE SNARK AT EACH OTHER OUTSIDE?! XADHOOM'S ABOUT TO LIGHT THIS PLACE UP LIKE A TINDERBOX!
UNDERSTOOD! THEN IT'S TIME WE MADE OUR OWN EMERGENCY EXIT! NOW ARMING THE TOWER FIGHTER'S TIP! MAXIMUM INTENSITY!
VREET—*
ZZRAK
KA-BLAM
BOOM
WAVE BYE-BYE, YOU ROACHES.

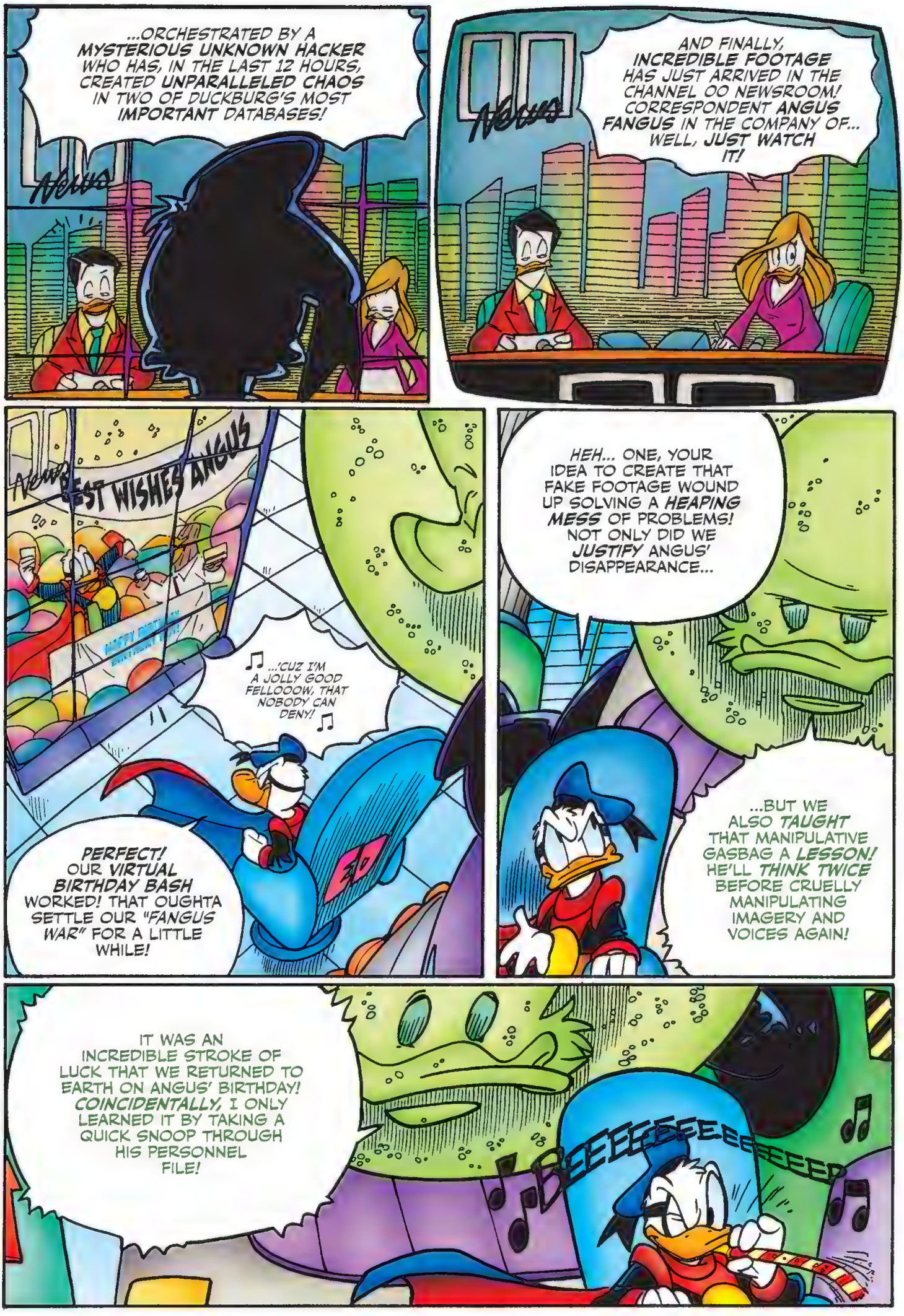

FAR FROM PLANET EARTH, THE LIGHT OF THE VENUSIAN EXPLOSION MIGHT BE CONFUSED FOR THE SHINE OF A DISTANT STAR...
THIS IS IT, MIKE... *PIER 9.* AND HERE'S THE SHIP...
...*THE CORMORANT!* FLYING THE *NEW ZEALAND FLAG!*
THAT'S WHERE ANGUS IS *FROM.* DID HE GET MIXED UP WITH *SMUGGLERS?*
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT: I WALK UP AND *ASK.* AND *BLUFF* MY WAY OUT, IF I NEED TO!
EXCUSE ME. HI, I'M LOOKING FOR *CAPTAIN TARANTULA!*
I'M HIM. WE MET, LADY?
ANGUS FANGUS SENT ME. HE... HE WASN'T ABLE TO MAKE IT.
ABOUT *TIME.* I ALREADY GOT ME MONEY, SO I'LL GIVE *YOU* THE ITEM HE WAS S'POSED TO PICK UP. I DEMAND PAYMENT *WELL IN ADVANCE* FER CARRYIN' CARGO LIKE THIS.

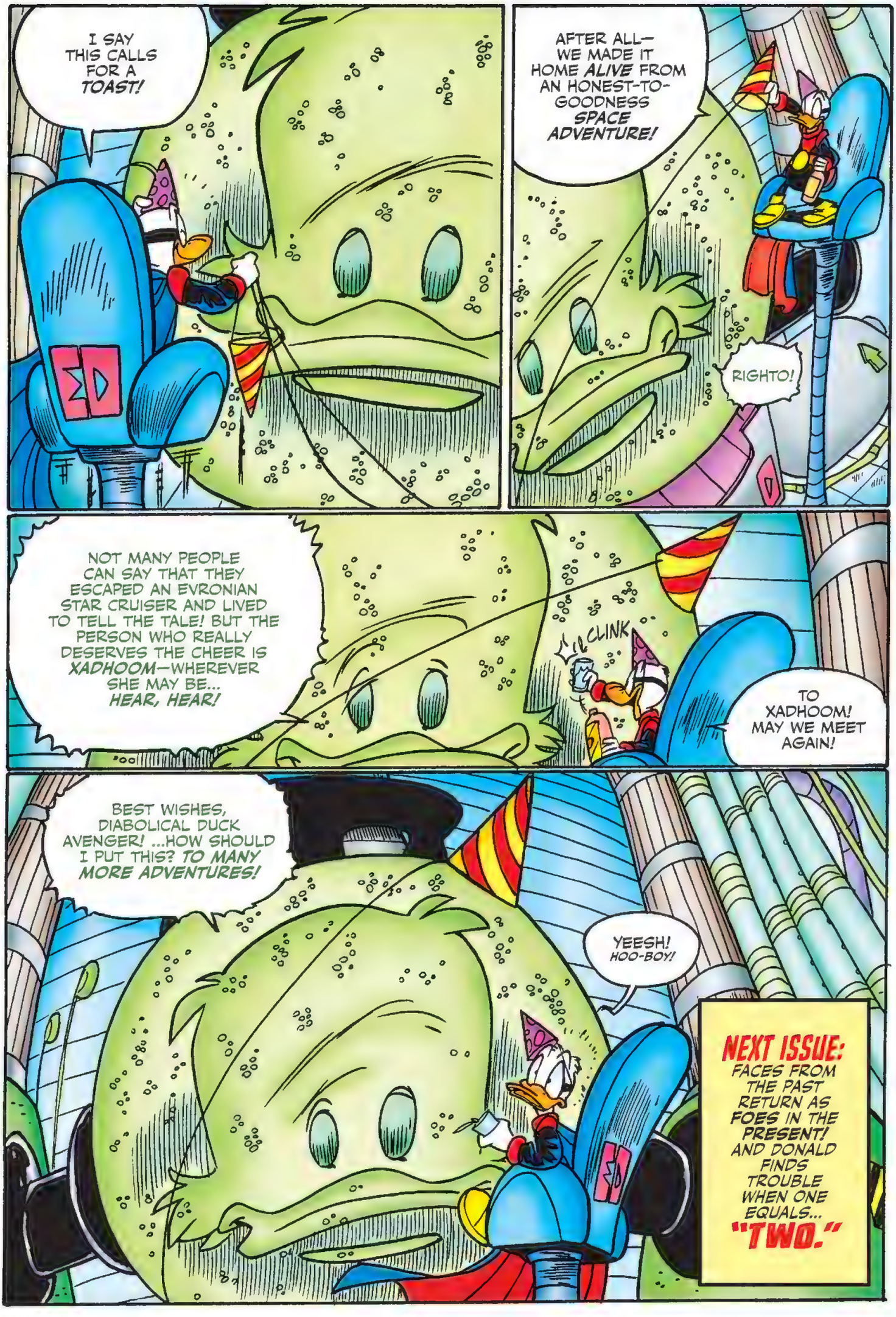
"TAKE IT. I WOULDN'T DARE GET CAUGHT WITH IT!"
I WONDER WHAT'S INSIDE...
LIKE YOU SAID: "ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT!"
WHOA...
A FEW HOURS LATER, DAWN RISES ON A NEW DAY IN DUCKBURG...
RRRROOM
ZZZZZ
NO WAY... NO WAY IS THAT POSSIBLE!
ZZZ
RRROOMZZZ
ANGUS?
WHU—? WHERE... WHA' HOP'NED? BREAKFAST ALREADY?
ANGUS FANGUS! YOU'RE FINALLY BACK!
:UGH: I MUST'VE FALLEN ASLEEP IN TH' NEWSROOM LAST NIGHT. WHAT TIME IS IT?
WHAT TIME IS IT?!? YOU SEEMINGLY VANISHED OFF THE FACE OF THE PLANET FOR 24 HOURS! WHERE THE HECK HAVE YOU BEEN?!
24 HOURS?! B-BUT WHAT DAY IS TODAY?!

LYLA! MIKE! YOU'RE BACK!
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW?! ANGUS, YOU GOOF—IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!
YEAH... AND WE'RE HERE WITH CAPTAIN TARANTULA'S GIFT! BEST WISHES!
WAIT... TARAN-TULA?! BUT HOW'D YOU KNOW ABOUT—
OH, THAT'S... A LONG STORY! I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT OVER TODAY'S COFFEE BREAK!
THE MAORI MASK! IT'S FINALLY MINE... THE ANCIENT TRIBAL MASK OF THE FANGUS CLAN...
OR RATHER, A FAITHFUL REPRODUCTION MADE IN RECORD TIME! THE ORIGINAL MASK OF MAORI WAS A PRECIOUS RELIC THAT WAS SOMEHOW SNUCK INTO DUCKBURG AS CONTRABAND! CAN YOU BELIEVE SMUGGLERS HAD IT?
CONTRABAND? SMUGGLERS?! THAT WAS MY BIRTHDAY GIFT, YOU AGGRESSIVELY NOSY GOON! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH IT COST?
NO WORRIES, ANGUS! I MADE SURE TO DELIVER THE REAL MASK TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES AT THE NEW ZEALAND CONSULATE! BEST WISHES, ANYHOW!
:SNARL!: THANKS LOADS...
BUT THIS DOESN'T EXPLAIN ANYTHING, ANGUS! I STILL HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT HOW OR WHERE YOU'VE—
NO, DIRECTOR WOODSTAIN! IT'S ME WHO HASN'T FIGURED OUT WHAT'S GOIN' ON! I DEMAND AN—
THUMP


WHAT'S THIS PIECE OF JUNK?
TAKING A BRIEF MOMENT TO FORM AN EDUCATED GUESS AT FIRST GLANCE—IT'S A VIDEOTAPE.
YOU WERE CARRYING IT ON YOU, AND THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT WHAT'S ON IT...
THIS IS INSANE!!!
B-BUT DIRECTOR, I... I...
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ANGUS FANGUS!
♫ ...'CUZ I'M A JOLLY GOOD FELLOOOW, THAT NOBODY CAN DENY! ♫
BEST WISHES ANGUS
NOW I GET IT...
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BIRTHDAY BOY!
...IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY! AND YOU—OF ALL PEOPLE—SPENT THE ENTIRE DAY CELEBRATING WITH THE DUCK AVENGER! THAT ACTUALLY SOLVES THE MYSTERY! YOU TWO ARE SECRETLY BEST BUDDIES!
:SPUTTER!: WHAT TH'— THAT'S NOT ME!
HERE, LYLA! I WANT THIS AIRING ON EVERY SINGLE NEWS BROADCAST TODAY AS OUR HUMAN INTEREST STORY! WE'LL CALL IT "PEACE MADE BETWEEN ANGUS FANGUS AND THE DUCK AVENGER!"
ON IT!

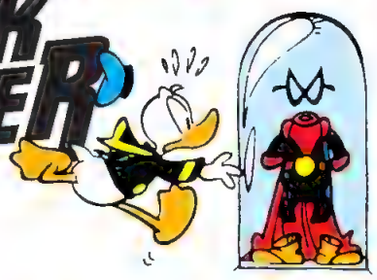

A TOAST TO ANGUS FANGUS! AS THEY SAY: "ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL!"
BUT IS IT REALLY OVER?
ON AIR
THERE'S WAY TOO MANY QUESTIONS LEFT UN-ANSWERED.
MIKE THINKS THE BROKEN GLASS IN ANGUS' APARTMENT WAS CAUSED BY A GUST OF WIND, BUT I KNOW IT WASN'T...
IT WAS THE WORK OF THREE EVRON-IANS! BUT WHY? WHAT WERE THEY UP TO? WHAT REALLY HAPPENED BETWEEN YESTERDAY AND TODAY?
DONALD— OR RATHER, THE DUCK AVENGER— CAN HELP ME UNDER-STAND THAT...
...BUT HE CAN'T HELP UNRAVEL THE RIDDLE OF THAT MAORI MASK!
ANGUS SURE GOT HIMSELF A BIZARRE BIRTHDAY GIFT. BUT I GUESS...
...THAT'S ANOTHER STORY.
DING

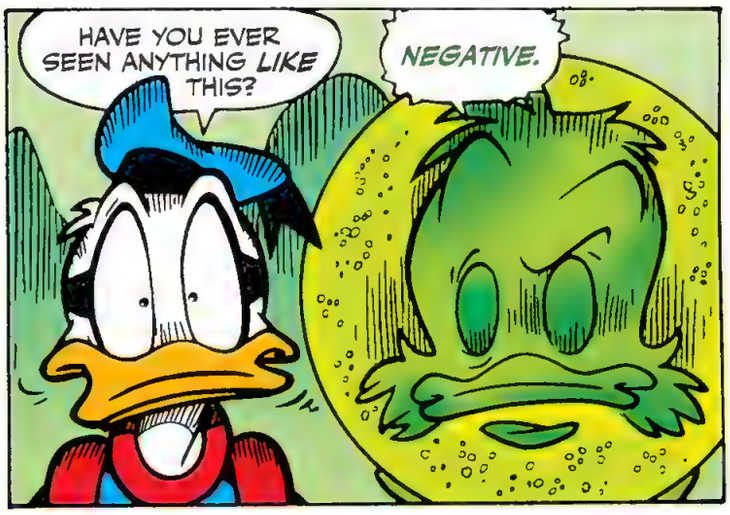

...ORCHESTRATED BY A MYSTERIOUS UNKNOWN HACKER WHO HAS, IN THE LAST 12 HOURS, CREATED UNPARALLELED CHAOS IN TWO OF DUCKBURG'S MOST IMPORTANT DATABASES!
News
AND FINALLY, INCREDIBLE FOOTAGE HAS JUST ARRIVED IN THE CHANNEL 00 NEWSROOM! CORRESPONDENT ANGUS FANGUS IN THE COMPANY OF... WELL, JUST WATCH IT!
BEST WISHES ANGUS
♫ ...'CUZ I'M A JOLLY GOOD FELLOOOW, THAT NOBODY CAN DENY! ♫
PERFECT! OUR VIRTUAL BIRTHDAY BASH WORKED! THAT OUGHTA SETTLE OUR "FANGUS WAR" FOR A LITTLE WHILE!
HEH... ONE, YOUR IDEA TO CREATE THAT FAKE FOOTAGE WOUND UP SOLVING A HEAPING MESS OF PROBLEMS! NOT ONLY DID WE JUSTIFY ANGUS' DISAPPEARANCE...
...BUT WE ALSO TAUGHT THAT MANIPULATIVE GASBAG A LESSON! HE'LL THINK TWICE BEFORE CRUELLY MANIPULATING IMAGERY AND VOICES AGAIN!
IT WAS AN INCREDIBLE STROKE OF LUCK THAT WE RETURNED TO EARTH ON ANGUS' BIRTHDAY! COINCIDENTALLY, I ONLY LEARNED IT BY TAKING A QUICK SNOOP THROUGH HIS PERSONNEL FILE!
BEEE

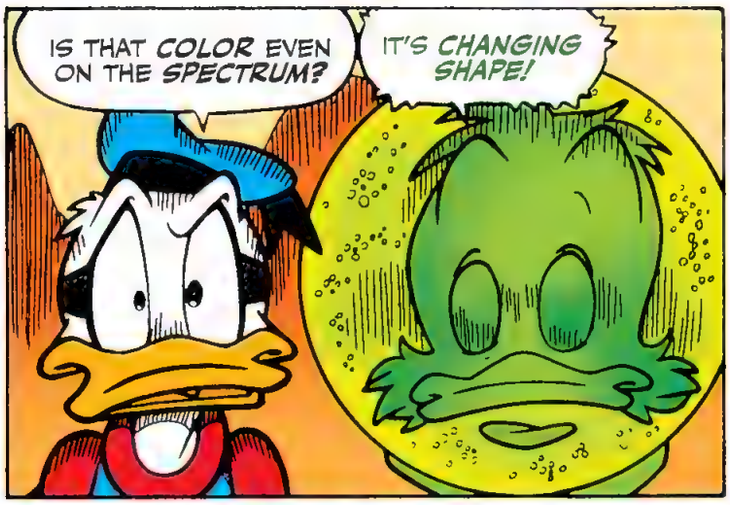

I SAY THIS CALLS FOR A *TOAST!*
AFTER ALL— WE MADE IT HOME *ALIVE* FROM AN HONEST-TO-GOODNESS *SPACE ADVENTURE!*
RIGHTO!
NOT MANY PEOPLE CAN SAY THAT THEY ESCAPED AN EVRONIAN STAR CRUISER AND LIVED TO TELL THE TALE! BUT THE PERSON WHO REALLY DESERVES THE CHEER IS *XADHOOM*—WHEREVER SHE MAY BE... *HEAR, HEAR!*
CLINK
TO XADHOOM! MAY WE MEET AGAIN!
BEST WISHES, DIABOLICAL DUCK AVENGER! ...HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS? *TO MANY MORE ADVENTURES!*
YEESH! *HOO-BOY!*
NEXT ISSUE: FACES FROM THE PAST RETURN AS *FOES* IN THE *PRESENT!* AND DONALD FINDS TROUBLE WHEN ONE EQUALS... **"TWO."**

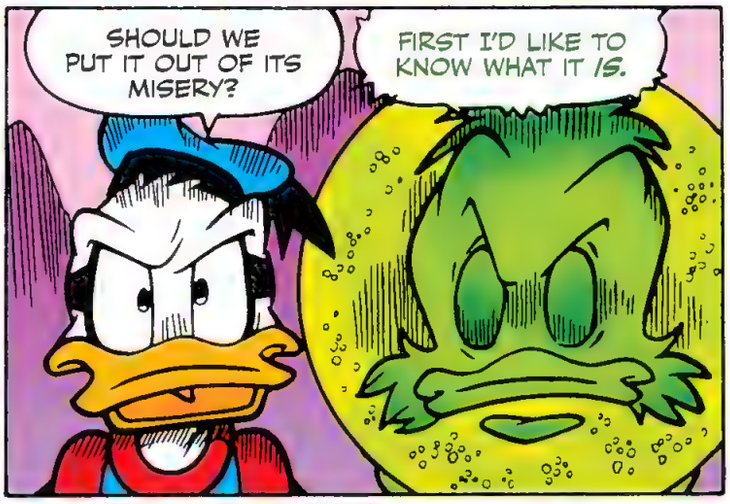
Walt Disney's

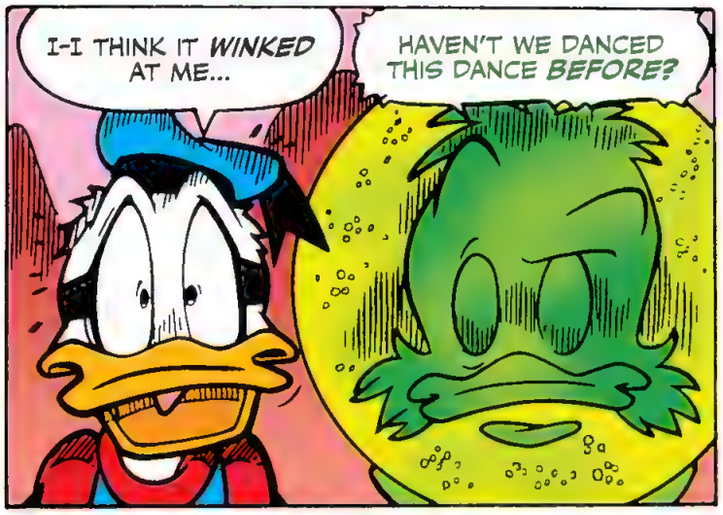
THE WORLD OF DUCK AVENGER

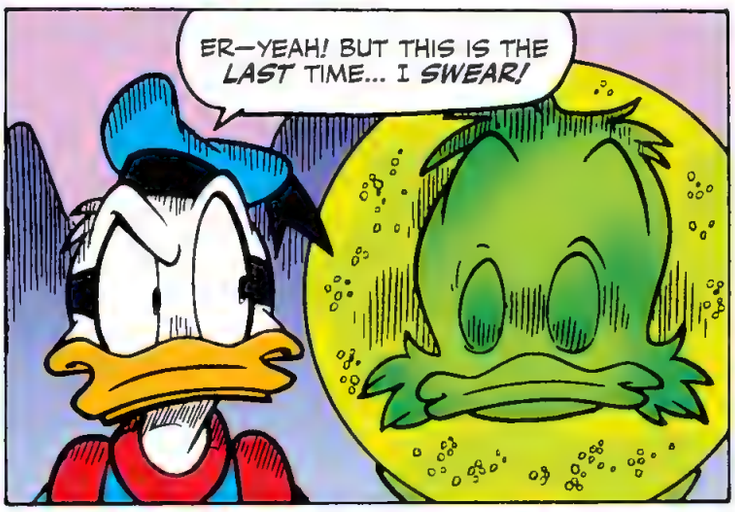


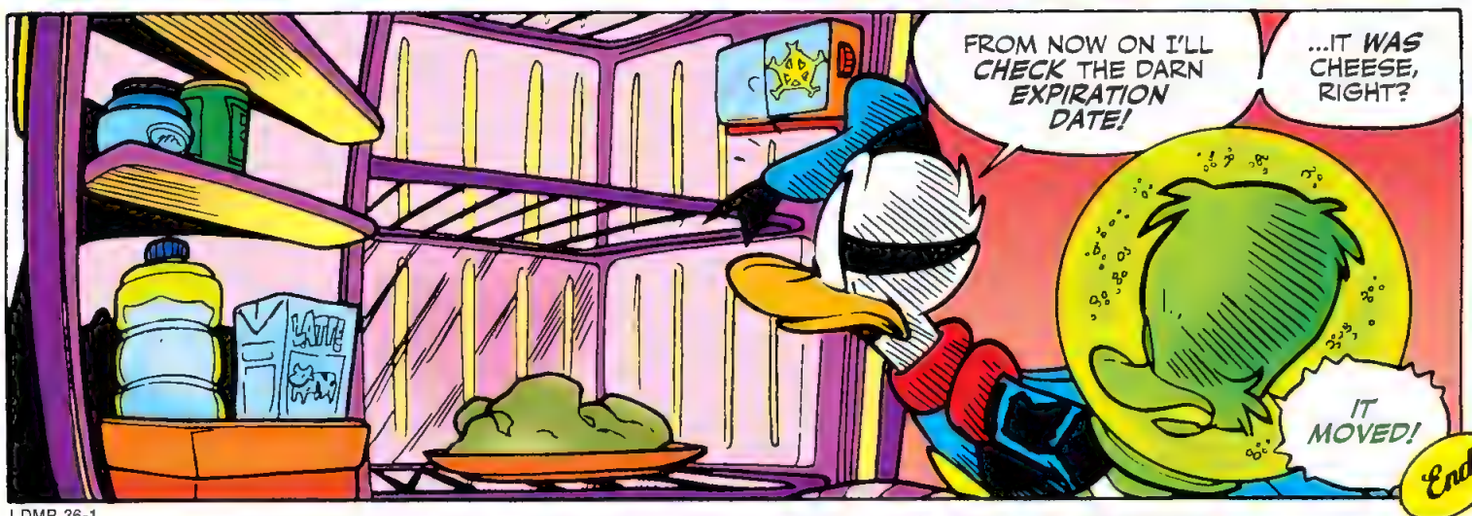












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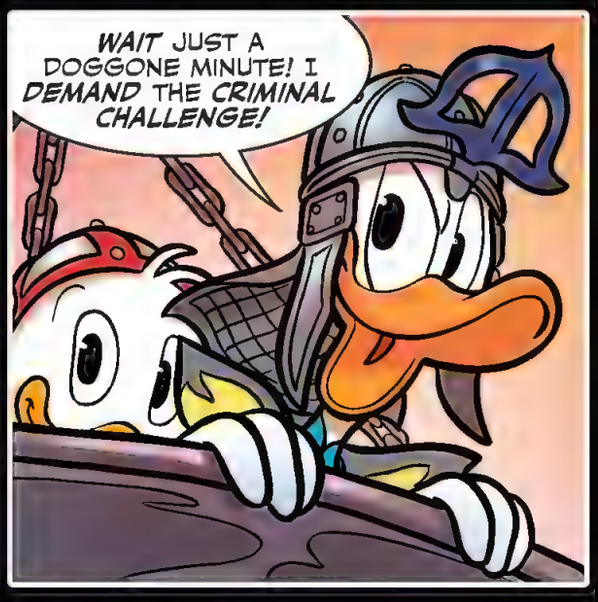

Episode 4: *Rock Racers*

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LAST ISSUE:

The **mini-galaxy** of **Feudarnia**—an alternate-reality home for our Duckburg and Mouseton stars—is living year three of a ruthless siege! It's a constant attack by the **Meteormaster** and his **Meteorbeasts**—giant animals made of enchanted stone called **Dragonite**. The only hope of beating these monsters is the **Beastbusters** and their **Busterbots:** feisty local bounty hunters and the flying robot boats they have built for the purpose!

Is there a way to win this fight for good? Well... that's why ersatz Beastbuster **Donald Duck** was bringing the **Magneus Malleus,** a giant magic hammer, to Magicianeer Gyro Gearloose! But during a detour to fight a **Hawk Meteorbeast** in Quackburgh township, pernicious **Pegleg Pete** swiped the hammer for himself!

And evil Emil Eagle has some foul play in progress, too...

—David Gerstein, Archival Editor

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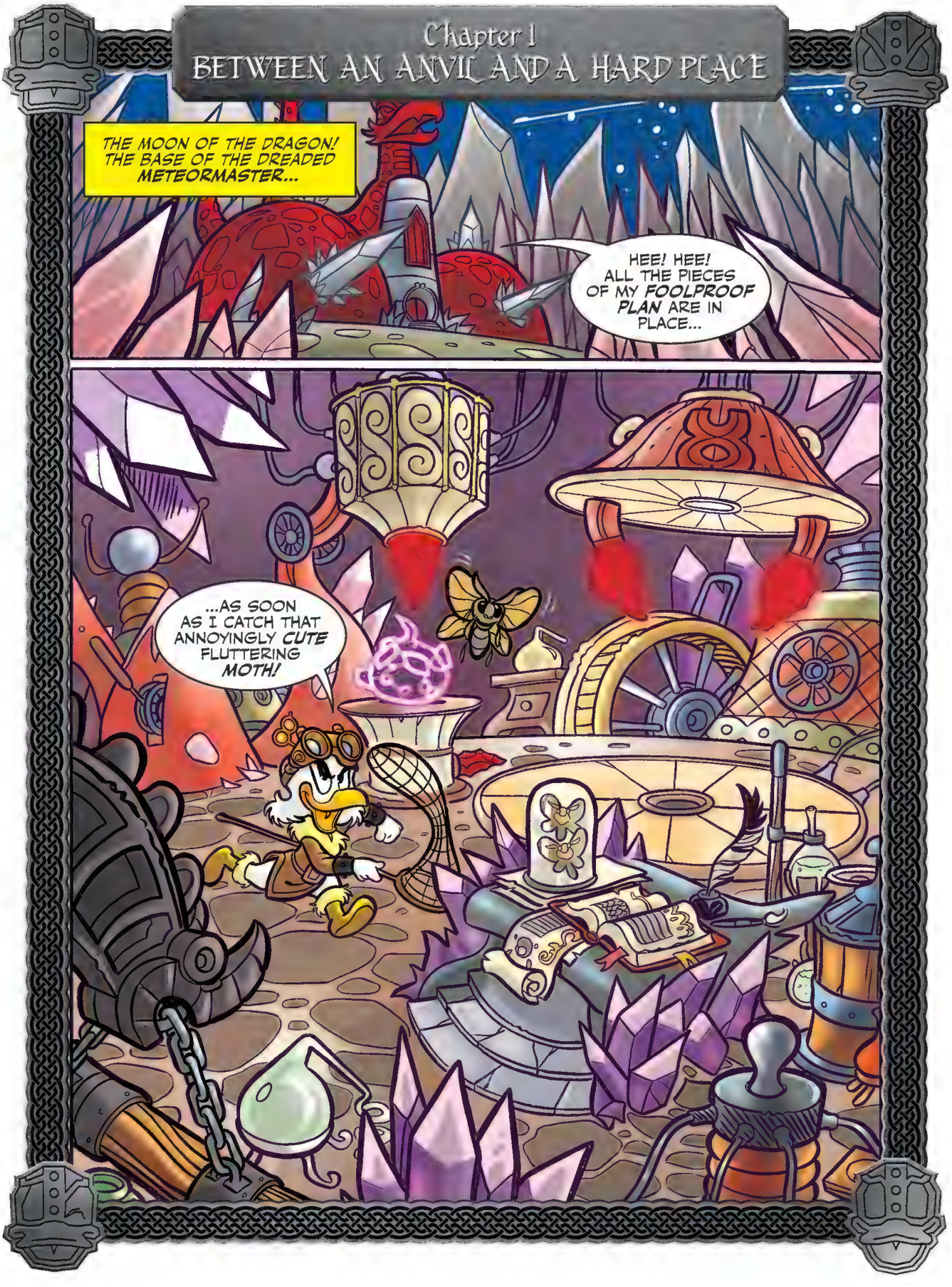
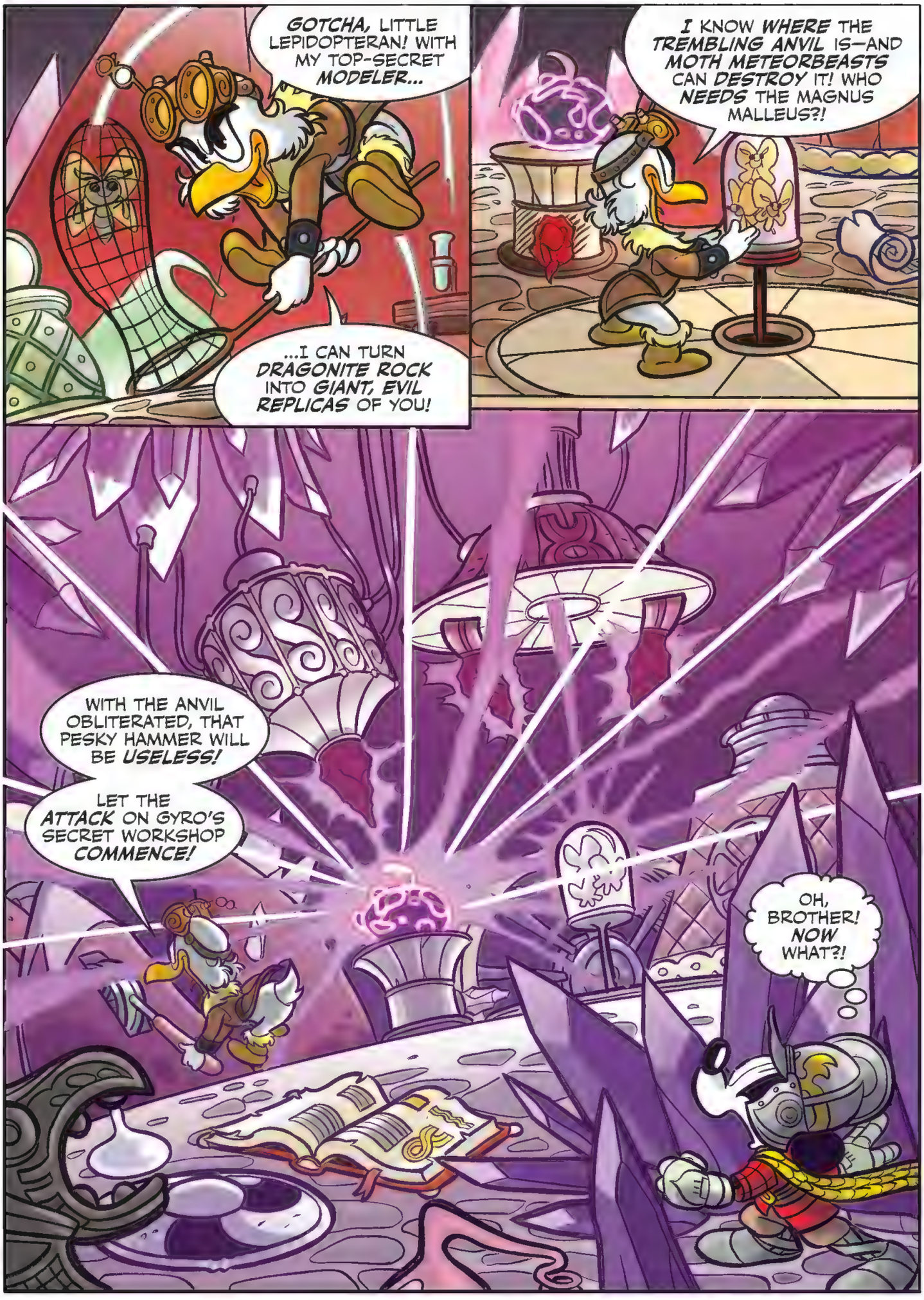
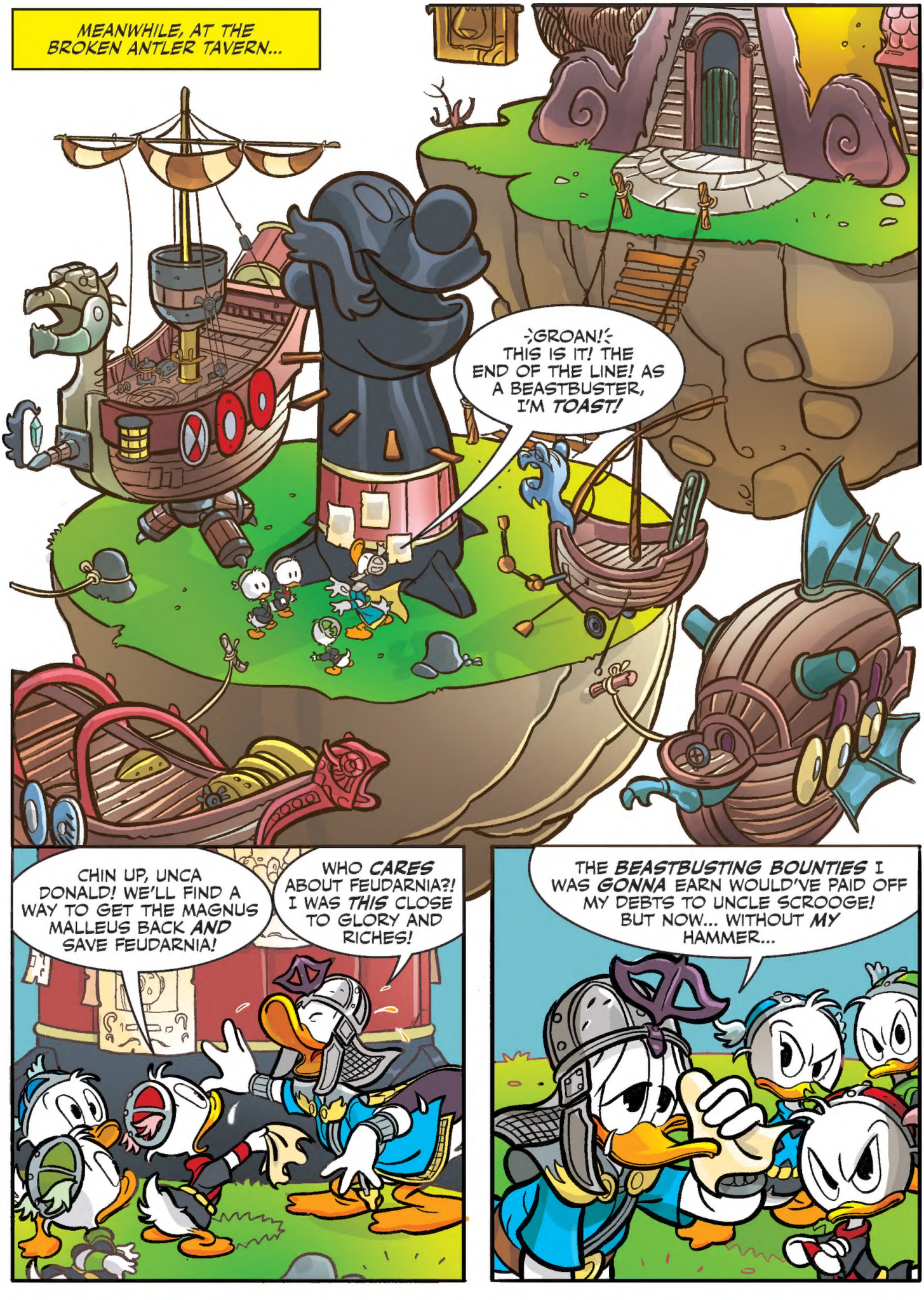
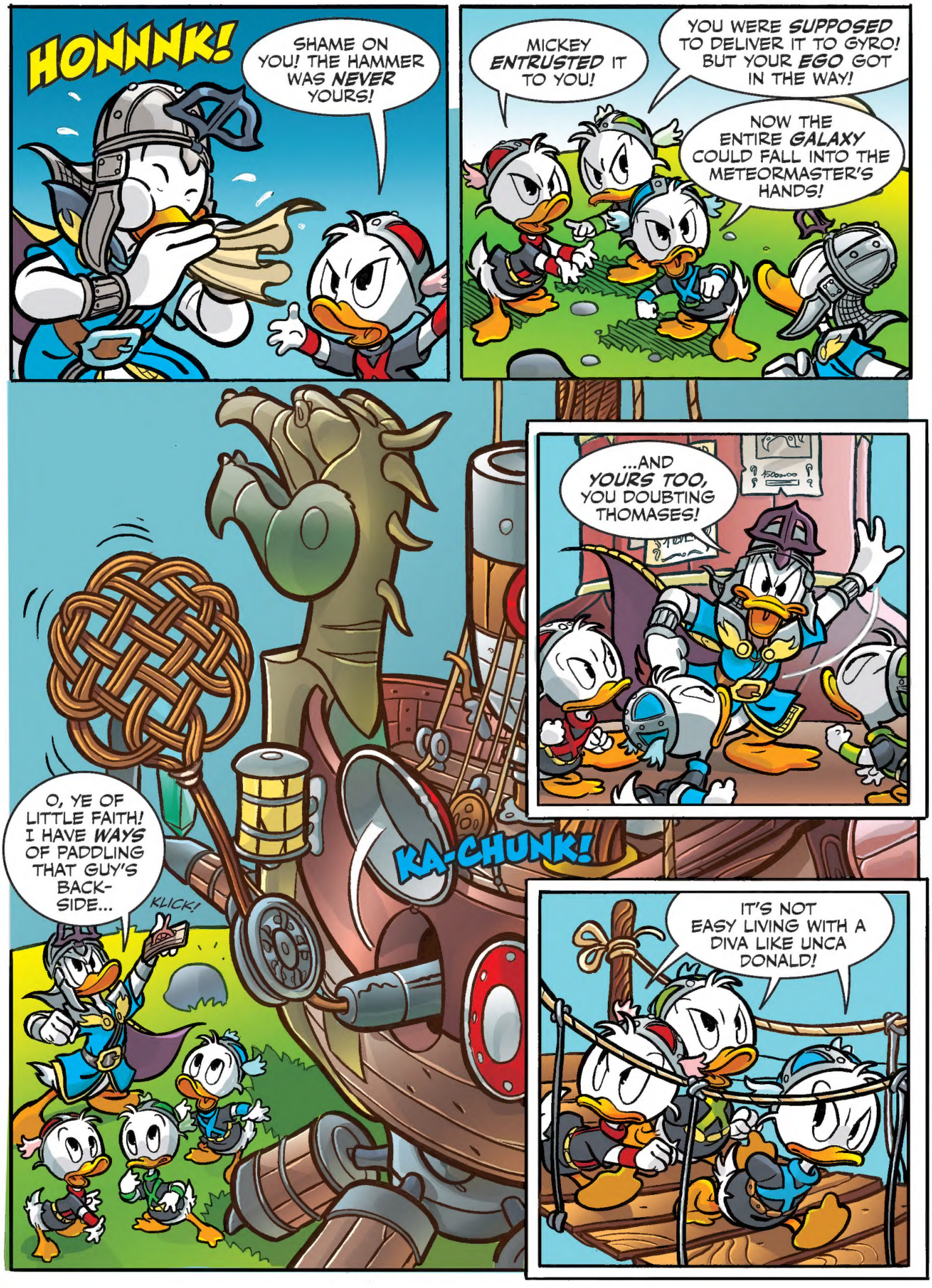

Chapter 1
BETWEEN AN ANVIL AND A HARD PLACE
THE MOON OF THE DRAGON! THE BASE OF THE DREADED METEORMASTER...
HEE! HEE! ALL THE PIECES OF MY FOOLPROOF PLAN ARE IN PLACE...
...AS SOON AS I CATCH THAT ANNOYINGLY CUTE FLUTTERING MOTH!


GOTCHA, LITTLE LEPIDOPTERAN! WITH MY TOP-SECRET MODELER...
...I CAN TURN DRAGONITE ROCK INTO GIANT, EVIL REPLICAS OF YOU!
I KNOW WHERE THE TREMBLING ANVIL IS—AND MOTH METEORBEASTS CAN DESTROY IT! WHO NEEDS THE MAGNUS MALLEUS?!
WITH THE ANVIL OBLITERATED, THAT PESKY HAMMER WILL BE USELESS!
LET THE ATTACK ON GYRO'S SECRET WORKSHOP COMMENCE!
OH, BROTHER! NOW WHAT?!

I'LL SHOW THOSE BUNGLING BEAGLES *AND* THAT STUCK-UP MAGICA! ONCE I SUCCEED, THE METEOR-MASTER WILL MAKE ME *GOVERNOR* OF FEUDARNIA!
THIS IS *BAD!* MONTHS AGO, *I* WAS TH' GUY WHO LOCATED THE *DRAGONITE* TO FORGE THE MALLEUS MAGNUS AND THE ANVIL!
BUT I ONLY SCROUNGED UP *JUST ENOUGH!* IF EMIL WRECKS TH' ANVIL GYRO'S GOT NOW, IT'LL BE *IMPOSSIBLE* TO FORGE ANOTHER!
IS THIS TH' BEGINNING OF TH' END?!


MEANWHILE, AT THE BROKEN ANTLER TAVERN...
:GROAN!: THIS IS IT! THE END OF THE LINE! AS A BEASTBUSTER, I'M *TOAST!*
CHIN UP, UNCA DONALD! WE'LL FIND A WAY TO GET THE MAGNUS MALLEUS BACK *AND* SAVE FEUDARNIA!
WHO *CARES* ABOUT FEUDARNIA?! I WAS *THIS* CLOSE TO GLORY AND RICHES!
THE *BEASTBUSTING BOUNTIES* I WAS *GONNA* EARN WOULD'VE PAID OFF MY DEBTS TO UNCLE SCROOGE! BUT NOW... WITHOUT *MY* HAMMER...


HONNNK!
SHAME ON YOU! THE HAMMER WAS *NEVER* YOURS!
MICKEY *ENTRUSTED* IT TO YOU!
YOU WERE *SUPPOSED* TO DELIVER IT TO GYRO! BUT YOUR *EGO* GOT IN THE WAY!
NOW THE ENTIRE *GALAXY* COULD FALL INTO THE METEORMASTER'S HANDS!
...AND *YOURS TOO,* YOU DOUBTING THOMASES!
O, YE OF LITTLE FAITH! I HAVE *WAYS* OF PADDLING THAT GUY'S BACK-SIDE...
KLICK!
KA-CHUNK!
IT'S NOT EASY LIVING WITH A DIVA LIKE UNCA DONALD!

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